



2019

Annual report

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ARIEL GUARCO
ICA PRESIDENT

“...Our identity is rooted in each of our communities, in the life stories of millions of people around the world...”

The ICA is the common home of all co-operators and is an open house, which this year is celebrating 125 years of existence. I feel like a member of this great family and each time we meet or communicate is a privilege. This is why I very much regret this moment we are going through, isolated, although it is necessary to mitigate the tremendous effects of the pandemic on our health and that of the entire population.

In 2019 I pursued one of the central tasks I had started carrying out during the first year of my presidency: be by your side, accompany you as far as possible, in those moments of importance for our organisations. With many of you we have been able to talk face-to-face, I was able to learn first-hand about the development of your cooperative organisations, and I tried to be available to interact with government officials or other leaders of the societies where your organisations operate.

In these meetings with public authorities, we have been able to see that the institutional presence of the ICA facilitates dialogue and mutual listening, where it had not previously taken place, and also helps to strengthen links, renew commitments and articulations, where there was a previous history. It is part of the institutional political mission: to defend the interests of cooperatives and promote their action.

At the ICA we made a great institutional effort to coordinate and, personally, I spent a good part of my time crossing oceans and continents in pursuing this objective. I had the opportunity to be in 30 countries, in all regions, bringing the message of unity of our organisation directly to our members, strengthening the ICA's link with the communities, which is where we know that the great transformative potential of our development model takes shape.

All the visits I made in 2019 were extremely valuable for me, I felt welcome in every place I went and I learned a lot from each experience I had. Some were also particularly moving, such as the visit to the Genocide Memorial in Rwanda, where I went for the first time in January, as part of my trip to East Africa.

This was for me a prologue to what happened in that same country in October, when we all gathered for our Global Assembly and Conference. One of the fruits of that meeting is the historic Declaration on Positive Peace through Cooperatives, where we ratified our effort to “*find equitable and just ways to solve problems in a sustainable and democratic manner, thus contributing to prevent violence and hatred*”.

Without doubt, cooperatives are not alien to the historical context that surrounds them. And they can do much to transform it, even in the most difficult circumstances. We have seen this in Rwanda, a country that has been socially and economically reconstructed largely through mutual aid and cooperation. But we can also see major changes in each of our communities, which would not be the same if cooperatives did not exist.

It is this same matrix of mutual aid and cooperation that is positioning cooperatives as key actors in sustainable development in each country, in each region and throughout the planet.

In this period in which I have been at the head of the ICA I have been able to see that what allows the global development of our movement in different social, cultural, political and economic scenarios, is our identity that is rooted in each of our communities, in the life stories of millions of people around the world.

It is this identity that we intend to celebrate on the 25th anniversary of the Manchester Congress declaration, and which must drive us to consolidate our role in a world full of uncertainties, tensions and inequalities, but where we also have great opportunities.

However, in order to take advantage of these opportunities, we must get to increasingly know each other, recognise each other and get integrated with each other, under the umbrella of our cooperative identity. Each meeting with you is for me a step forward in this integration endeavour that we must deepen day by day.

I believe that in 2019 we made great progress in this direction. The regions and sectors, as well as the committees and networks, are fundamental gears in the functioning of the ICA, but they are also the pillars on which a participatory and people-centred organisation is built, from the bottom up.

Every activity in which I have been allowed to participate has confirmed my vision that integration is the only way to continue to grow. And that is what allows us to be seen by other global actors as a fundamental tool for meeting the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

In that sense, I think it was also a great success to put decent work as the theme of our International Day of Cooperatives, a milestone that framed another historical event: the recognition of cooperatives in the Declaration for the Centenary of the International Labour Organization, added to the memorandum of understanding I signed with its Director General, Guy Ryder, and the day we shared about cooperatives and the future of work.

The food issue, the so-called platform economies, climate action, gender equity, care services and education are other dimensions that cut across our proposal in the framework of the Sustainable Development Agenda and which I have been able to observe, in each community, how they are being successfully addressed from the angle of the cooperative identity.

In our Plan for the next decade we approved a development path centred on people. Judging by the large number of actions, interactions, messages and proposals that fed the vast agenda of the ICA in 2019, and which we can see reflected in this report, I can tell you with certainty that we are on the right track.

I encourage you to continue exchanging and debating ideas about the organisation that we want and need; to continue working and integrating ourselves in each of our communities and to continue building together this global movement that transforms the lives of millions of people every day.





BRUNO ROELANTS
ICA DIRECTOR GENERAL

“...in 2019, the ICA increased its overall value both as the global organisation promoting, serving and representing cooperatives worldwide and as the hub for the cooperative movement as a global actor...”

THE WORLD CONTEXT

The year 2019 had a continuous flow of crises and challenges world-wide, from migrant crises, to diplomatic ones such as stalled negotiations in trade such as Brexit, or disarmament like with North Korea. Violent conflicts have remained protracted in many parts of the world, and in particular in the Middle East and Syria. Distrust was on the rise and increasingly shown in vile ways on social media and on the street, against segments of the population, or in relation to and within institutional frameworks. Grave ecological disasters took place in Mozambique and Brazil, to name a few. Last but not least, the world had to confront two grave crises due to viruses: Ebola and COVID-19. Many of these events continue to impact us in 2020.

This stock of challenging news in 2019 was disheartening, but against this array of pressures and uncertainty, youth-led climate activism went global, citizens mobilized to improve education, maternal health care and food security, while movements against discrimination, inequality and harassment took root socially and politically.

In terms of trade and economics, trade tensions were having a toll on global growth. The automobile production contracted while trade tariffs were increased, targeting particular products and countries, although macro-economic policies were easing in general and intra-regional trade as in Asia and Africa was gaining pace.

Yet, all this may seem perhaps a distant past compared to what we have been experiencing in 2020 under the COVID-19 pandemic.

THE VALUE OF ICA FOR THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT

Against the complex world context briefly sketched above, the international cooperative movement continued to grow in influence and networking. This report shows that in 2019, the ICA increased its overall value both as the global organisation promoting, serving and representing cooperatives worldwide, and as the hub for the cooperative movement as a global network. A key evidence of this value was the 2019 ICA Global Conference “Cooperatives for Development” (Kigali, Rwanda, 14-17 Oct). This conference focused, for the first time in decades, on how cooperatives contribute to sustainable development, with a strong emphasis on the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and sessions focusing on entrepreneurship, peace, innovation, housing, energy, food security, health, value chains, employment and environmental protection. It was the second time that a global ICA cooperative meeting was organised in Africa, after the Cape Town conference in 2013, giving to the African cooperative movement a second opportunity to be present in significant numbers.

Two particularly valuable documents were approved by the ICA General Assembly just after ICA Kigali Conference:

- The **ICA Resolution on Cooperatives for Development**, which recaps the conclusions of the Conference;
- The **ICA Declaration on Positive Peace through Cooperatives**, em-

blematically approved in Rwanda, which experienced a tragic genocide and where cooperatives played a fundamental part in positive peace, particularly during the reconstruction period.

2019 also saw strong inter-cooperation among the ICA global, regional, sectoral and thematic entities, as well as DotCoop, thereby raising the value of the whole ICA organisational system:

- Between the ICA and the ICA Regions: the ICA-EU Partnership programme on development, initiated in 2016, continued to strengthen the interaction between the ICA and its Regions, and, in 2019, the Global Cooperative Entrepreneurship (GCE) training project more in particular, based on an initiative launched by Cooperatives Europe. The collaboration between ICA and Cooperatives Europe in the Coordination Unit of this programme was also successful;
- Between the ICA and the ICA Sectoral Organisations: particularly important to mention is that the ICA organised the revival of the International Cooperative Banking Association (ICBA) after several years of inactivity;
- Between the ICA, the ICA Regions and the ICA Sectoral Organisations: an executive working group was established among all these entities, and a more specific one on membership; in Kigali, the ICA co-organised a wide array of thematic sessions with each of the 4 ICA Regions and with 5 ICA Sectoral Organisations;
- Among ICA Regions: ICA Asia Pacific and ICA Africa co-organised the 1st Middle East and North Africa Cooperative Development Conference and an inter-regional workshop on Cooperatives in Educational Institutions;
- Between the ICA on the one hand, and the ICA Thematic Committees and Youth Network on the other: the ICA-EU Partnership actively supported the joint work of the ICA and its Global Youth Network in the preparation and successful outcome of the ICA Global Youth Forum on Cooperative Entrepreneurship, initially scheduled to take place in Sri Lanka in July 2019, and finally celebrated in Malaysia in February 2020; the ICA organised the revival of the Cooperative Law Committee (CLC); another thematic committee, the International Cooperative Development Platform (ICDP), created in 2017, was considerably boosted by the topic and the environment of the ICA Kigali conference;
- Between ICA Regions and Sectoral Organisations: for example, a joint ICA Asia Pacific – CICOPA research on industrial and service cooperatives, and collaboration between ICA Africa and ICA Sectoral Organisation IHCO on health;
- Between ICA Thematic Committees and Sectoral Organisations: the ICA Committee on Cooperative Research (CCR) and CICOPA worked on the finalisation of the book “Cooperatives and the World of Work” published at Routledge during the year.
- Between the ICA and DotCoop on the .coop internet domain name and on the COOP marque, with a new impetus, in particular around the Kigali Conference.

On advocacy and partnership, the following involving either the ICA global entity, the ICA Regions, Sectoral Organisations or Thematic Committees, we should underline in particular:

- The inclusion of cooperatives in the ILO Centenary Declaration on the Future of Work, a key ILO document;
- The signing of our new MoU with the ILO and the collaboration with the ILO COOP Unit on the above mentioned book “Cooperatives and the Future of Work”;
- The first global intergovernmental meeting on cooperatives organised in Kigali;
- The reinforcement of the ICA's links with global civil society organisations such as the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and the global fair trade organisations;
- The second ICA Asia Pacific Cooperative Registrar's Forum in Ho Chi Minh gathering many governmental agencies regulating and promoting cooperatives;
- Cooperatives of the Americas' strategic dialogue with the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC);

- ICA Africa's interaction with the Pan-African Parliament on cooperative legislation together with the ICA Cooperative Law Committee (CLC);
- Cooperatives Europe's interaction with the European Parliament with a supporter network;
- The promotion, within the ICA African, Asia-Pacific and American Regions, of our members' links with the EU Delegations in their respective countries in the field of development;
- The participation of ICA health Sectoral Organisation IHCO in the activities of the World Health Organisation and of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA);
- The participation of the ICA Gender Equality Committee to the UN Commission on the Status of Women.

The cooperative identity was brought into more focus in 2019, with the preparation of the 33rd World Cooperative Congress titled "Strengthening our Cooperative Identity". This event, originally foreseen for 2020, is postponed due to the pandemic, and will be held in Seoul in 2021. The planning started taking shape jointly with our Korean members and with the Seoul Metropolitan Government. Still on identity, the ICA Gender Equality Committee (GEC) brought forward the need for gender training, particularly on cooperative identity.

2019 also saw an increase in the ICA's interaction with its members. Particularly worth mentioning:

- The ICA President travelled to around 30 countries across all continents to meet members.
- To assist members on cooperative legislation, the ICA created a new staff position in this field; with the support of the legislation framework analysis carried out within the ICA-EU Partnership and with the newly revived Cooperative Law Committee (CLC), assistance to members was provided to 7 countries in 9 months' time.
- We launched a new news bulletin dedicated to members;
- Members from several countries visited the ICA headquarters in Brussels, the opportunity for in-depth interaction with them on each others' activities.

There was also a significant improvement in encouraging and monitoring members' activities at the occasion of the International Day of Cooperatives (Coopsday) on 6 July, organised within the framework of the UN Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives (COPAC) on the theme of cooperatives and decent work (SDG 8). This doubled the 2018 coverage of members' Coopsday events held worldwide. As part of the CoopsAroundtheWorld documentary series launched in 2018, a new documentary featuring Nepalese cooperatives was screened at the 2019 CoopsDay meeting at the UN in New York.

We launched the regular activities of the ICA's new think tank ICETT, established at the end of 2018, gathering large cooperatives and cooperative groups to work on a series of topics of interest such as the future of work and how cooperative identity can boost business and competitiveness.

Finally, the ICA, in close collaboration with its regional, sectoral and thematic bodies and the whole membership, delivered and approved a brand new 10 year ICA Strategic Plan (2020 – 2030), providing a strong added value to the ICA system and the cooperative movement.

Many more activities and outputs generated by the ICA and the ICA bodies can be found in this report. Its first pages focus on the ICA President's travel itinerary to meet members and authorities around the world, and the ICA's global activities and outputs.

Second, the activities of the ICA bodies, namely the Regions, the Sectoral Organizations, the Thematic Committees, the Youth Network and DotCoop, are reported. Third, the ICA 2019 financial statement and the members' list can be found at the end of the report.



**The apex body
representing
cooperatives:
around
3 MILLION
WORLDWIDE**

**One of the largest
organisations by the
number of people
represented: MORE
THAN 1,2 BILLION
COOPERATIVE
MEMBERS**

**One of the oldest
non-governmental
organisations: we are
celebrating our 125TH
ANNIVERSARY IN
2020!**

The ICA is....

**The global voice
and forum
for knowledge,
expertise and
co-ordinated action
for and about
cooperatives.**

**A hub of
314 organisations
from 113 countries
united to represent
and serve COOPERATIVES
WORLDWIDE.**

**The global steward
of the Statement
on the Cooperative Identity,
comprising the
definition, values and
principles of cooperatives**

THE ICA PRESIDENT'S 2019 VISITS TO MEMBERS AND NATIONAL AUTHORITIES WORLDWIDE

For ICA President Ariel Guarco, 2019 presented an impressive travel itinerary around the globe, rich with meetings and exchange with members and leaders.

The following recount provides an overview of the persons and organisations he met in Africa, Asia-Pacific, the Americas and Europe during the year.

JANUARY

In January, the ICA President visited Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania and Ethiopia, accompanied by Japheth Magomere, ICA-Africa President and ICA Vice President; Bruno Roelants, ICA Director-General; and Sifa Chiyoge, Regional Director for Africa.

In **Kenya**, he met with representatives from the Cooperative Bank of Kenya, the Cooperative Insurance Company (CIC), the Kenya Union of Savings and Credit Co-operatives (KUSCCO), the African Confederation of Cooperative Savings and Credit Associations (ACCOSCA), the National Cooperative Housing Union (NACHU) and the Cooperatives University of Kenya (CUK). In addition to the ICA Africa premises, he also visited the State Department of Cooperative as well as late ICA-Africa President Stanley Muchiri's house.

In **Uganda**, the ICA President and delegation visited the Uganda Co-operative Alliance (UCA), the Uganda Central Cooperative Financial Services (UCCFS) and the Wazalendo Sacco Credit Union. They also visited the Parliament headquarters, where they met with National Assembly Speaker Rebecca Kadaga. Uganda's Cooperative Minister Fredrick Ngobi also welcomed him and the delegation.

In **Rwanda**, the ICA President and delegation had meetings with Permanent secretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Michel Sebera and other Government officials of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry regarding the incoming ICA global conference on Cooperatives for Development, held in October. They also met with representatives of the National Confederation of Cooperatives of Rwanda (NCCR) and the Cooperative Agency of Rwanda.

In **Tanzania**, the ICA President and delegation visited the Tanzania Federation of Co-operatives and had a meeting with Japhet Hasunga, Minister for Agriculture.

In **Ethiopia**, the ICA President and delegation met with representatives of the Federal Cooperative Agency, the Oromia Coffee Farmers Union (OCFCU), the Awach Savings and Credit Cooperative (ASCCo). A meeting with different Government leaders was also organised.



FEBRUARY

In February, the ICA President led a delegation of 8 cooperatives from **Argentina** to **India** and **Vietnam** as part of a trade mission carried out by the Argentine Government. In New Delhi, he visited the ICA Asia-Pacific regional office and met with representatives of the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) and the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). In Mumbai, he met with representatives of the National Federation of State Coop Banks Ltd. (NAFSCOB), the National Cooperative Agriculture & Rural Development Banks' Federation Ltd (NAFCARD) and Buldana Urban Cooperative Credit Society (BUCCS). In Vietnam, he met with representatives of the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA).

MARCH

In March, the President, together with leaders of the FACC and La Obrera (Argentina), visited the COOP of Santo Andrés, **Brazil**.

APRIL

In April, he participated in the 34th Cooperative Opinion Conference organized by ASCOOP (Colombian Association of Cooperatives) in **Colombia**, where he gave a speech on the challenges and opportunities of cooperatives in the digital world.

The President then participated in the Trade Mission organized by the Argentine Foreign Ministry in **France** and **Belgium**, from April 25 to 30. In Paris, he met with representatives from Coop FR, Crédit Mutuel, Central Office for School Cooperation (OCCE), Group Up and Enercoop. In Brussels, his delegation visited the ICA global office, visited Bees Coop, Ecopower, the European federation for renewable energy cooperatives Rescoop and SMART.

MAY

In May, the ICA President went to **Finland** and **Sweden** to meet ICA members and to visit consumer cooperatives. He was accompanied by a delegation of Argentinean, Mexican, and Uruguayan cooperators as well as by the Secretary General of CCW, the ICA Sectoral Organisation for consumer cooperatives. In Finland, the delegation met with representatives of Coop Center Pellervo, S Group, Cooperative HOK-Elanto, Ässäkeskus. In Sweden, the President met with representatives of KF, Coop Sweden, WeEffect, Svensk Kooperation, Riksbyggen, Folksam and HSB.

On 30 May 2019, the ICA President participated in the Assembly of the Central Cooperative Union (CCU) in Sofia, **Bulgaria**. He was received by the Minister of Labour and Social Policy, Biser Petkov. He also met with representatives of the Central Cooperative Bank and of the National Union of Workers' Cooperatives.

In **Romania**, he met representatives of the Union of Handicraft and Production Cooperatives (Ucecom) and of the National Union of Consumer Cooperatives (CentroCoop). Among other activities, he visited the CoopExpo, an important exhibition fair where Ucecom participated



with more than two dozen stands of artisan cooperatives. He visited the campus of Artifex University, where he received the distinction of honorary member of the academic community.

In **Moldova**, the President met with the representatives of MoldCoop and received a distinction as an honorary member of the University of Commerce managed by MoldCoop. He met with Moldovan Prime Minister Pavel Filip, who expressed his support for the development of cooperatives in the country and the need to draw inspiration from international experience.

JUNE

In June, the President participated with keynote addresses in:

- the Cooperatives Europe General Assembly in Strasbourg, **France**;
- the 7th CIRIEC International Research Conference on Social and Solidarity Economy: "Moving Towards a New Economic System" in Bucharest, **Romania**;
- the ICA - ILO Joint Conference "Cooperatives and the future of work", June 24, 2019, Geneva, **Switzerland**;
- the International Conference of the UN Inter Agency Task Force on SSE "Implementing the SDG: What role for the SSE?" in Geneva.

JULY

In July, the ICA President visited six countries in the **Asia-Pacific region**, accompanied by ICA-Asia Pacific Regional Director Balu Iyer.

In **Thailand**, he met with representatives of the Cooperative League, the Department of Promotion of the sector, the Confederation of Credit Unions of Asia, ACCU and the Federation of Credit Unions.

In **Singapore**, he met with representatives of the National Cooperative Federation (SCNF) and NTUC Health and NTUC Learning.

In **Indonesia**, he was received by the national entity Dekopin, with the federation of Batik production cooperatives, and with financial cooperatives. In addition, he met with a representative of the Ministry of Cooperatives and SMEs and visited the commercialization center for artisanal production.

In **China**, the President was received by ACFSMC, which represents and markets the production of agricultural cooperatives; ACFHIC, which brings together the cooperatives of commerce, industry and artisan production; and the Committee for the Promotion of Chinese Industrial Cooperatives (ICCIC).

In **Korea**, he met with representatives of the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF), the Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives (NFFC) and KOSEA, the social economy promotion agency.



In **Japan**, he met representatives of the Japan Cooperative Alliance, of workers' cooperatives and agricultural cooperatives. He also had the opportunity to meet representatives from the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

AUGUST

In August, the ICA President participated in the meeting of the Board of Directors of Cooperatives of the Americas, in Ixtapa, **Mexico**.

SEPTEMBER

In September, he participated in the International Cooperative Forum organised by Centrosoyuz in Kaluga, **Russia**, where he met Dmytry Zubov, Chairman of the Centrosoyuz Board; Alexei Gordeyev, Deputy Prime-Minister of the Russian Federation; Anatoly Artamonov, Governor of the Kaluga Region; Viktor Evtukhov, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation; Oksana Lut, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of the Russian Federation; Andrey Sharov, Vice-President, Sberbank of Russia; Boris Listov, Chairman of the Board, CEO, Russian Agricultural Bank.

OCTOBER

In October, he chaired the ICA General Assembly and participated actively in the Global Conference on Cooperative Development in Kigali, **Rwanda** (see section on the Global Conference below). He also met Rwandan Prime Minister Edouard Ngirente, who praised the ICA for the Global Conference.

NOVEMBER

In November, the ICA President participated in:

- the 21st Regional Conference of Cooperatives of the Americas, "Cooperatives economic actors with social and sustainable impact" in San José, **Costa Rica**.
- The Centenary Anniversary of the Co-operative College and launch of The Co-operative College Strategy 2020-2025 in Manchester, **United Kingdom**.

DECEMBER

In December, the President participated in the 3rd International Conference for Co-operative Housing (ICCH'19) organised in Cairo, **Egypt**, under the patronage of the Egyptian Prime Minister, titled "Cooperative Housing and Sustainable Development Goals 2030".

2030
2022

AN ICA STRATEGY FOR A SECOND COOPERATIVE DECADE

The ICA 2020-2030 Strategic Plan “A People-Centred Path for a Second Cooperative Decade”, was approved by the ICA General Assembly in Kigali in October with some final inputs, finalising a process launched in early 2018 (see ICA 2018 Report [here](#)). In early 2019, a second survey was sent to all ICA members in response to feedback obtained during the first survey in 2018. The ICA Regions, Sectoral Organizations, Thematic Committees and Youth Network were consulted twice; the ICA Board worked on the draft online and in two strategy sessions. The final version can be found [here](#)

The Strategic Plan recalls the ICA statutory Mission and Purpose in the light of the global challenges of the new decade and emphasises the fundamental need to reinforce the cooperative identity during that period. It builds on the Blueprint for a Cooperative Decade, (approved in 2012, Manchester), extending till 2030. The vision in the ICA 2020-2030 Strategic Plan calls for the cooperative form of enterprise should become:

- 1** The acknowledged leader in economic, social and environmental sustainability
- 2** The model preferred by people
- 3** The fastest growing form of enterprise.

The Strategic Plan is structured around FOUR KEY STRATEGIC THEMES, building upon and going beyond the 4 pillars of the former Blueprint for a Cooperative Decade:

- Promotion of the Cooperative Identity, which extends and expands upon the “Identity” pillar of the Blueprint, while calling on deepening the Statement on the Cooperative Identity and comprising also legislation, thus partly the “Legal Framework” pillar of the blueprint.**

2022
2030

- **Growth of the Cooperative Movement**, which expands on the “Legal Framework” (including policy) and “Capital” pillars of the Blueprint, while comprising the various other elements necessary for such growth (membership, coordination, partnerships, knowledge, communication, strengthening the economic role of cooperatives, youth and gender).
- **Cooperation among cooperatives**, which expands on the “Participation” pillar of the Blueprint.
- **Contribution to Sustainable Development**, which extends and expands upon the “Sustainability” pillar of the Blueprint by recommitting to a strong cooperative contribution to the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations, encompassing the triple bottom line of cooperative enterprise – economic, social and environmental.

The following pages of the report are structured around these four strategic themes, beginning with the last one, as it was the overarching theme of the main event of the year, namely the ICA Global Conference “Cooperatives for Development”, held in Kigali (Rwanda) in October.



CONTRIBUTION TO GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT¹

ICA Global Conference “Cooperatives for Development” and ICA General Assembly

The ICA Global Conference “Cooperatives for Development” held in Kigali, Rwanda, from 14 to 17 October, was dedicated to the topic of sustainable development, one of the four key themes of the new ICA Strategic Plan (see above). It was aimed at highlighting the role of cooperatives in achieving the UN’s 2030 Agenda and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. We had almost 1000 participants from all over the world. It was the second time that the ICA organised a global conference in Africa (the first time was in Cape Town in 2013), and the first time in the heart of the continent. ICA Regions and Sectoral Organisations fully cooperated in its organisation, partly within the framework of the ICA-EU Partnership.

After an institutional opening held by ICA President Ariel Guarco, Rwandan Trade and Industry Minister Soraya Hakuziyaremye and EU Ambassador Nicola Bellomo, and a video message from Daniela Bas, Director of the Division for Inclusive Social Development under the UN Department of Economic and Social affairs, world-famous environmental activist Vandana Shiva (Director of the International Forum on Globalisation) gave a keynote address on how cooperatives can help to achieve a more solidarity-based and participatory society and move decisively to protect and save the planet.

Plenary sessions were held on fundamental ways in which cooperatives significantly contribute to the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda: how to promote the preservation of the environment (SDG 13, 14 and 15), employment and decent work (SDG 8), strategic positioning in value chains (SDG 12 – responsible consumption and production) and peace and equality (SDG 16 and SDG 10).

A first set of four parallel sessions was organised in collaboration with ICA Regions, with the significance of multi-stakeholder partnerships (SDG 17) as a cross-cutting theme, dealt with tackling inequalities (SDG 10), women’s empowerment (SDG 5), innovation in entrepreneurship (SDG 8) and inclusive ethical value chains (SDG 12).

A second set of four parallel sessions was organised in collaboration with the ICA Sectoral Organisations: contributing to food security and sustainable production and consumption (SDG 2 and 12), how health, industrial and service cooperatives contribute to reducing inequalities (SDG 3, 9 and 10).

A Coop Cinema session showcased a series of short films produced by aroundtheworld.coop (see below), telling cooperative stories and showcasing the work of – and the people behind – cooperatives across the globe².

At the ICA General Assembly held immediately after the Global Conference, two important texts were approved:

¹ Reference in the ICA Purpose: “Promote sustainable human development and to further the economic and social progress of people, thereby contributing to international peace and security” (ICA Bylaws, Art. 1).

² Material on the Global Conference can be found [here](#), and the full programme can be accessed [here](#)



The ICA Resolution on Cooperatives for Development, elaborated as a conclusion to the Global Conference, available [here](#), stating inter alia that:

"Considering that the nature of the cooperative enterprise model corresponds to the interlinkages and the interdependencies amongst the 17 SDGs, it is crucial that cooperatives are recognised as an indispensable actor for the aspirational multi-stakeholder partnerships required to achieve sustainable development going beyond Agenda 2030"

The ICA Declaration on Positive Peace through Cooperatives, available [here](#), stating inter alia that:

"Cooperatives build a future for people to own and geared towards the long term. Cooperative entrepreneurship allows for the potential of collective action to solve common problems, promoting an inclusive economy for sustainable development, based on social and solidarity values, which implied to continuously empower women, youth, and vulnerable populations, and to cooperate with others beyond the cooperative movement. In such a way, cooperatives engage in positive peace as a path that promotes equality and empathy, inclusion and opportunity for decent work, entrepreneurship and development".

23 other meetings involving, inter alia, the ICA Regions, Sectoral Organisations, Thematic Committees and Youth Network were also held at the occasion of the Kigali conference.

BUILDING THE GLOBAL COOPERATIVE IMPACT FUND

The preparation of the Global Cooperative Impact (GCI) Fund, which started in 2018, continued in 2019 in collaboration with an impact investor with cooperative experience. Aimed to help cooperatives overcome their challenges through funding for long-term needs, the fund will also build management capacity, particularly in financial management, business planning and impact measurement, via technical assistance, and is thus far more than just a financial tool.

We have been supported in this endeavour by an advisory company specialised in structuring impact finance funds to develop the structure of the Fund (such as legal status and governance). Following this work, an updated brochure has been developed, as well as a roadmap and timeline for the next steps to build the Fund. The Fund was also presented to relevant stakeholders, including high level officials from the European Commission's DG DEVCO, the ACP Secretariat, the African Guarantee Fund (AGF), the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), the United Nation Development Programme (UNDP), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the African Development Bank (AFDB) and other Development Finance Institutions.

The Fund was also presented at the 3rd Annual Plenary meeting of the Smallholder and Agri- SME Finance and Investment Network (SAFIN), held in New Delhi, India on 10 and 11 November 2019 during a meeting to pool partners' peer knowledge and support around new initiatives. ICA Asia-Pacific led the session which focused on impact assessment tools tailored to the cooperatives' special needs, forms and capacities (see ICA Asia-Pacific report below).



CAPACITY BUILDING ON DEVELOPMENT

Building on the work launched in 2018, new member capacity building seminars were organised in the framework of the ICA-EU Partnership in all ICA Regions, bringing together a large number of ICA members to focus on their ability to advocate for the cooperative model and on relation building with the respective EU Delegations (EUDs) in the member countries and on an improved understanding of the EuropeAid financial instruments.

Following the launch of the Global Cooperative Entrepreneurs (GCE) mentoring programme in 2018, 2019 focused on a range of activities organised in collaboration with the ICA Regions. The GCE programme aims to foster youth cooperative entrepreneurship and is implemented via vocational education and training partnerships between cooperative associations and youth organisations. The programme is now implemented in 8 countries, namely Colombia, Uganda, Zimbabwe, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sweden and Poland. In March 2019, a global mentors' training was held in Manchester, United Kingdom and provided by the Co-operative College UK (a partner of the Erasmus+ funded CoopStarter 2.0 project, from which the idea of GCE originated).

With the same goal of increasing knowledge and experience sharing, as a result of the above-mentioned training, a group of three GCE mentors (from Poland, Indonesia and Colombia) worked together to further develop common mentoring templates based on what was previously developed by CoopStarter 2.0, an Erasmus+ funded project coordinated by Cooperatives Europe. The drafted templates were shared for review with all GCE mentors, as well as the partners from CoopStarter 2.0. This exercise was aimed at being a practical first step of sharing knowledge and experience amongst ICA members and youth organisations active in the GCE programme.

DOCUMENTARY FILM SERIES ON COOPERATIVES' CONTRIBUTION TO DEVELOPMENT

Within the framework of the ICA-EU Partnership, the documentary film project aroundtheworld.coop, launched in the last quarter of 2018, successfully achieved the objectives foreseen in 2019. The filmmakers visited and filmed a diverse selection of cooperatives from different sectors and working towards different SDGs in the regions of Africa, Asia-Pacific and the Americas. In total, seven teasers and six films were produced, adding to the 2 films and the teaser produced in 2018. The aroundtheworld.coop team also edited an extra video to promote the 2019 International Day of Cooperatives. The videos can be viewed [here](#)

RESEARCH ON COOPERATIVES' CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS)

Launched at the end of 2018, the SDG research work aims at elaborating cooperative-specific SDG indicators. Part of this work was done with the ICA Sectoral Organizations. The project is being pursued in 2020, and its findings will be shared at the ICA World Cooperative Congress in 2021 (see section "Promote the Cooperative Identity" below).

SECRETARIAT OF ICDP

The ICA Global Office provided the secretariat of the ICA International Cooperative Development Platform (ICDP, see report below) and, in this framework, elaborated and published a Directory of Cooperative Development Organisations.

GROWTH OF THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT³

PARTNERSHIPS

In an ever more inter-connected world, partnerships with other actors are fundamental to develop common action and to carry out advocacy work.

The ICA signed on 24 June a **new MoU with the ILO** focusing on decent work and the future of work, the implementation of ILO Promotion of Cooperatives Recommendation, 2002 (n°193), the SDGs, the transition from the informal to the formal economy, global value chains, and the compliance of cooperatives to the cooperative model and to the ILO Labour Standards.

On that occasion, we co-organised a **joint Conference with the ILO on the Future of Work** at the ILO premises in Geneva. In attendance was the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and several member states. During the Conference the book "Cooperatives and the World of Work" (Roelants, Eum, Esim, Novkovic & Katajamäki (ed), 2019, Routledge), was launched. See [here](#). This book is the outcome of the joint 2015 Academic Conference by ICA and ILO, followed by a three year work by CICOPA, the ICA Committee on Cooperative Research and the ILO.



Other emblematic examples of partnerships during 2019 are:

- several follow up meetings with **FAO** and **IFAD**, aimed at better operationalizing the agreements signed with both Rome-based organisations;
- our active participation in the **UN Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives** (COPAC), with regular meetings, in which COPAC members started examining the issue of COPAC's long-term strategy;
- Our organization, together with the Government of Rwanda, of the first **global intergovernmental meeting** on cooperatives immediately after the Kigali Global Conference (see above);
- The beginning of institutional relations with the **International Trade Union Confederation** (ITUC) (see below under policy): we coordinated with ITUC on cooperative-related amendments to be discussed at the International Labour Conference on the ILO Centenary Declaration on the Future of Work, and on our intervention at the International Labour Conference the Standard Setting Committee on violence and harassment in the world of work (see below under policy). We collaborated with ITUC in the preparation of the Policy Forum on Development (PFD);
- The deepening of our collaboration with the **Fair Trade movement**, mainstreaming synergies throughout the activities of the ICA-EU Partnership. Experts of the Fair Trade movement were invited to the ICA Global Conference "Cooperatives for Development" in Kigali (see above) to exchange on fostering inclusive and ethical global value chains. We provided input on the World Fair Trade Organization (WFTO) publication "Creating the new economy: business models that put people and planet first".
- Collaboration with representatives of **Local Authorities** within the framework of a Kigali Conference parallel session (SDG 10) and within the PFD on domestic resource mobilisation and inclusive economic development issues.

³ Reference in the ICA Purpose: "Promote the world cooperative movement, based upon mutual self-help and democracy" (ICA Bylaws, Art. 1).

POLICY

Through in-depth lobbying work at the International Labour Conference, using our observer status the ICA obtained the **inclusion of cooperatives in the ILO Centenary Declaration on the Future of Work**, a key new ILO document available [here](#)

The ICA proposed the theme of the **International Day of Cooperatives** (Coopsday) held on 6 July: “**Cooperatives for Decent Work (SDG 8)**” and launched this event with an interactive map with DotCoop (see DotCoop report below) that provided information on 130 CoopsDay events from 40 countries (twice the number of events collected in 2018). Within the framework of the UN Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives (COPAC), the ICA co-organised with the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) an event for Coopsday at the UN headquarters in New York. This event served as a platform to:

- Discuss the ways in which cooperatives promote sustainable economic growth,
- Full and productive employment and decent work for all (SDG 8)
- In the spirit of SDG 17, setting an improved basis for multi-stakeholder partnerships within the framework of the UN Agenda 2030, and what governments and the international community can do to help them flourish.

Attendees also enjoyed the screening of the Nepal documentary of the series AroundTheWorld.coop: [see](#)

We participated in **UNDESA's consultation around the role of cooperatives in health**, in coordination with ICA Sectoral Organisation for health IHCO (see IHCO report below). During the same year, the United Nations Secretary-General's Report “Cooperatives in social development” to the 74th session of the General Assembly had a section highlighting the importance of health cooperatives.

With the support of the ICA Region Cooperatives of the Americas and in coordination with ICA Sectoral Organisation for housing CHI, in February 2019, the ICA also engaged in the **58th Commission for Social Development** (CSocD) on affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness.

By the end of the year, based on the new ICA 2020-2030 Strategic Plan (see above), the ICA started playing an active role in the **UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSSE)** with a retreat held in Trento in November and, since then, participating in the regular online meetings of this UN Task Force.

Development policy actions within the framework of the ICA-EU Partnership programme

Within the framework of the ICA-EU Partnership, and in close collaboration with Cooperatives Europe, with which the ICA shares the coordination of the Partnership, there was a focus on promoting relations between **EU Delegations** (EUDs) and national cooperative organisations. To this purpose, we produced a “Guideline for members on how to better advocate towards EU Delegations”, based on 5 key steps.

More effort was made to engage the ICA and the ICA Regions with development institutions to promote the co-operative model within development policies and regulation. A series of tools have been produced to support and strengthen the capacity of ICA members to advocate for an enabling environment towards Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and more specifically towards cooperatives, within the country action plans. Guidelines based on key steps were further produced to assist members in successfully reaching out and advocating for cooperative policy and programming priorities towards EUDs.

The ICA participated in the **EU Policy Forum for Development** (PFD) which took place in Brussels in March 2019. Acting in collaboration with Civil Society Organisations (CSO) and Local Authorities (LA), ICA helped organise sessions dedicated to the reporting and monitoring of the UN Agenda 2030 achievements, and sessions on financing for development (including specific financial instruments).

High level cooperative speakers took part in the PFD: K.P. Badal, Chairperson of the National Cooperative Federation of Nepal (NCFN), who shared NCFN's work on the contribution of cooperatives to the SDGs; Juan Carlos Canessa, Vice-president of the Confederation of Cooperatives of Uruguay (CUDECOOP), who shared the experience of the partnership between the cooperative movement and local authorities.

MEMBERSHIP

At the end of 2019, the ICA represented 310 member organisations in 108 countries. During the year, the ICA welcomed 14 new members and lost 14 members, whereas, in addition, 3 members (from Korea) merged into one. The number of individual members represented through our membership had a positive net increase of 1.5 million. The ICA welcomed a new member country, Kiribati, but lost two: Zambia and Saudi Arabia⁴.

The ICA strengthened its work with national public authorities specialised in cooperatives. Through that work, the ICA was able to welcome one new government entity in associate membership, bringing the total to nine.

The ICA launched a new news bulletin exclusively dedicated to ICA members called Members' Brief. We published with success 4 issues in 2019.

We hosted several member delegations at our headquarters in Brussels, from Finland (SOK), Argentina (Cooperar), China (ICCIC), Korea (KFCC) and Brazil (OCB), each time an opportunity for fruitful exchanges.

COORDINATION

Through a two-day retreat with the Directors of the ICA Regions and Sectoral Organisations, we established a Regional-Sectoral Directors Working Group. A membership sub-Working Group was established with the membership officers from Regions and Sectoral Organisations and has been meeting regularly to discuss issues and share information. A communications sub-Working Group established in 2018 continued to its work in 2019.

We organised the reactivation of one of the ICA 8 Sectoral Organisations which had been inactive for a few years, the International Cooperative Banking Association (ICBA), which had its re-constituent General Assembly in Kigali on 12 October, [see](#)

Similarly, we organised the reactivation of the ICA Cooperative Law Committee (CLC), one of the ICA's 4 Thematic Committee, which had remained inactive for a few years, through a re-composition of its membership and a re-constituent meeting (Kigali, 13 October), and started re-operationalizing it; [see](#)

KNOWLEDGE

After the ICA's active role in the elaboration and approval of the 2018 ILO Guidelines on Cooperative Statistics (see [here](#)), we contributed to the elaboration of a video in 2019 (see [here](#)).

We oversaw and took part in the 2019 Issue of the World Cooperative Monitor by EURICSE, with a focus on SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), available [here](#). The World Cooperative Monitor's new focus on SDGs has drawn the attention of the Secretary General of the United Nations in his 2019 report "Cooperatives in Social Development", available [here](#).

The ICA Global Office ensured the secretariat of the ICA Committee on Cooperative Research (CCR, see report below).

⁴ In August 2020, the ICA had 314 members in 113 countries.

COMMUNICATION

Like in 2018, the ICA social media channels saw a rise in the number of followers. On Twitter 1,786 new accounts started following @icacoop between March 2019 and February 2020. By the end of February 2020, the account reached 15,286 followers, showing an increase of at least 13% compared to the same period last year. The ICA Facebook page registered an increase of 12.5% over the year, peaking at the time of the ICA Global Conference Cooperatives for Development on 15 October 2019. The ICA YouTube channel has been strengthened thanks to the film project aroundtheworld.coop – five of the top ten most viewed videos belong to this project. The films “Casa di Alice” and “COPRORIZ-Ntende” rank second and fifth in the most visited videos list on the ICA YouTube channel, with 639 and 415 views, respectively. All in all, the number of subscribers to the ICA YouTube channels increased by 95% in 2019, with 246 new subscribers registered in this period. At the occasion of the International Day of Cooperatives on 6 July, a total of 19,000 tweets with the hashtag #CoopsDay were shared.

We launched the ICA's first podcast series titled 'Further Together' on cooperatives, with a focus on the future of work and cooperative research and legislation.

YOUTH

A global research on Youth and Cooperatives was launched and is still ongoing in 2020, in collaboration with the ICA Global Youth Network (GYN). The objective of the research is to reach out to young people both inside and outside the cooperative movement, assessing their needs and challenges, and examining how cooperatives can be beneficial for them by contributing to address these issues. The research chapters will be shaped based on the results of survey data and analyses written for each country, organised around five relevant thematic areas for the cooperative movement. Data collection from five countries (India, Indonesia, Iran, Philippines and Republic of Korea) was completed. Country reports were prepared at the regional level. The global report, still to be published, is based on different themes-employment, education, inequalities, civic/community engagement, and entrepreneurship.

The ICA Global Office ensured the secretariat of the ICA Global Youth Network (GYN, see report below).

GENDER

We coordinated the participation of the ICA Gender Equality Committee (GEC, see report below), together with members of the ICA International Cooperative Development Platform (ICDP), to the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63) organized by UN Women at the UN Headquarters in New York (see Gender Equality Committee report below). The aim of the participation was to discuss progress and gaps of the global policy on gender equality; see [here](#)

The ICA Global Office also ensured the secretariat of the Gender Equality Committee (GEC).

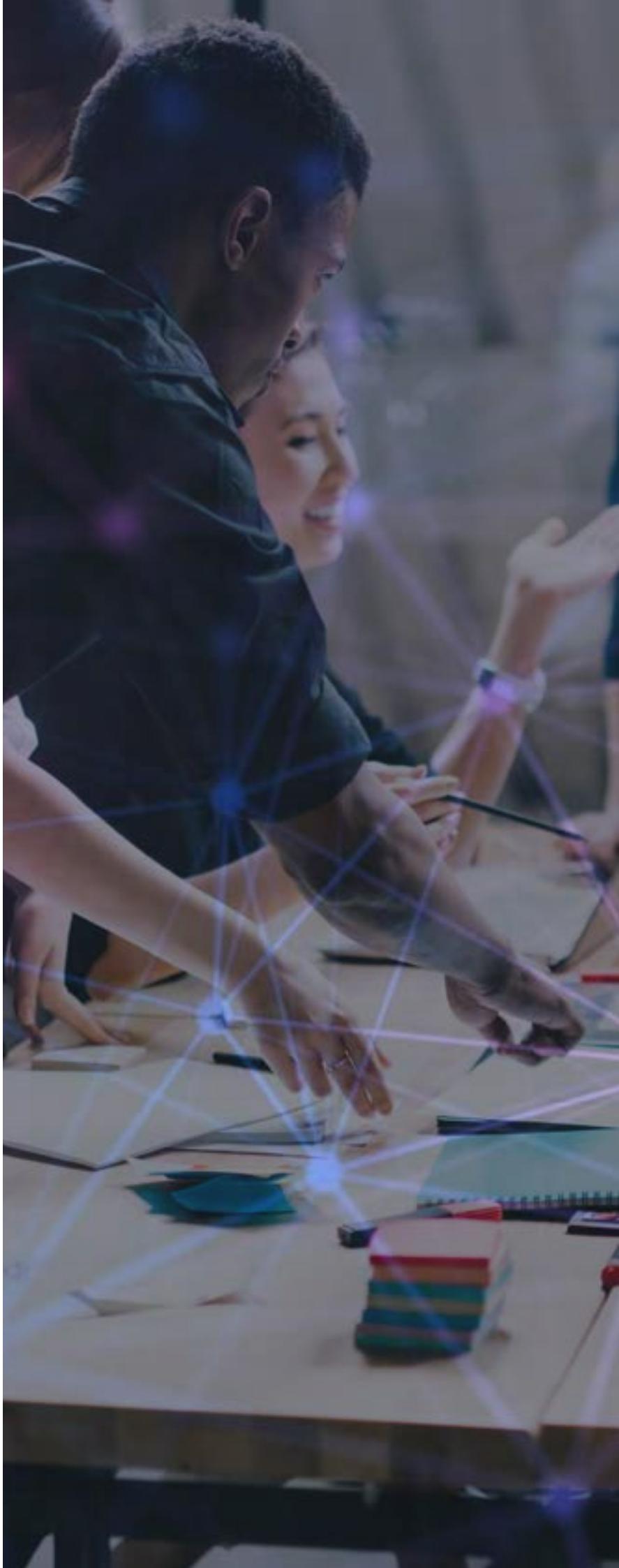


COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES⁵

We launched and structured the activities of the **ICA International Cooperative Entrepreneurship Think Tank** (ICETT), established in October 2018, with large cooperatives and cooperative groups. The first participants are SMart from Belgium, Midcounties from the UK, IFFCO and Buldana from India, SOK from Finland, UP Group from France, Cruz Azul from Mexico, Rabobank from the Netherlands, Kibbutz Movement from Israel, Cooperativa Obrera, Credicoop, Portuarios and Sancor Seguros from Argentina, and, at the end of the year, Mondragon Corporation. The first key themes being discussed include human rights in value chains, the future of work, and SDGs in relation with the World Cooperative Monitor.

We launched a **networking forum where members can go for advice and assistance from IT cooperatives**. See [here](#).

We initiated an online consultation on digital democracy to understand what member organizations and ICA staff members felt about promoting **platform cooperatives**. First analyses of the survey were shared with members, with the goal of establishing a specialized working group to focus on research and action on this theme.



⁵ Reference in the ICA Purpose: "Facilitate the development of economic and other mutually beneficial relations between its member organisations" (ICA Bylaws, Art. 1)



PROMOTION OF THE COOPERATIVE IDENTITY⁶

REINFORCE THE STATEMENT ON THE COOPERATIVE IDENTITY

After the ICA 2018 General Assembly decided that the ICA should organize its 33rd World Cooperative Congress on the theme of cooperative identity, we secured the venue for the Congress and related events in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The Congress, originally scheduled for December 2020, has been postponed to 2021 due to the pandemic. We started working on the contents of the Congress with a specific Task Force established for this purpose, and on the practical organization of the event. This effort is being done in close cooperation with the co-hosts of the Congress, namely our Korean members and with the Seoul Metropolitan Government.

PROMOTE LEGISLATION THAT PROTECTS THE COOPERATIVE IDENTITY

The ICA Global Office intensified its work on legislation in 2019, with the appointment of a dedicated specialist in April. Within the framework of the ICA-EU partnership, external experts worked in collaboration with the ICA regions to develop national reports on legal frameworks in up to 40 countries, while building on pilot work done in 2018. A systemic analysis was conducted of existing platforms of research bases concerning cooperative legislation. This was followed by the elaboration of a framework to further analyse and use indicators of cooperative legislation. This framework is now being extended for analysis of sectoral legislation.

We coordinated and provided legal opinion and research on cooperative law for legal queries emerging from ICA member organizations and ICA Regions. As of April 2019, when the specific legislation assistance to members began, the ICA undertook legislation work for cooperatives and related agencies based in Greece, Botswana, Fiji, Uganda, Ivory Coast, Kyrgyz Republic and Vanuatu. We also started collaborating with the Monetary and Finance Committee of the Pan African Parliament on the need and contents of a model cooperative law for member states of the African Union. We opened dialogue for collaboration on cooperative law with the International Trade Centre in Geneva and promoted legal research and knowledge on the law and cooperatives in the form of research papers and podcasts. We also launched preparatory work for a dedicated website for cooperative legislation.

The ICA Global Office also organized the revival of the Cooperative Law Committee (CLC) which took place in October, and ensured its secretariat since then.

Promote identity-related communication and branding

The ICA has continued to work closely with its subsidiary (shared with ICA US member NCBA) DotCoop in the promotion of the Dot Coop internet domain name (see the DotCoop report below).

⁶ Reference in the ICA Purpose: "Promote and protect cooperative values and principles" (ICA Bylaws, Art. 1)



President Ariel Guarco
(Argentina)



Vice president - Africa
Japheth Anavila Magomere



Vice president - Americas
Graciela Fernández



Vice president - Asia-Pacific
Chunsheng Li



Vice president - Europe
Jean-Louis Bancel



Board Members - Australia
Gregory Wall



Board Members - Brazil
Onofre Cezário De Souza Filho



Board Members - Canada
Alexandra Wilson



Board Members - Denmark
Susanne Westhausen



Board Members - Finland
Marjaana Saarikoski



Board Members - France
Florence Raineix



Board Members - India
Aditya Yadav



Board Members - Italy
Carlo Scarzanella



The ICA Board of Directors is composed of one president, four vice-presidents, four sectoral organisation representatives, a youth co-operator representative, the chair of the Gender Equality Committee and 15 other Board members.



Board Members - Japan
Toru Nakaya



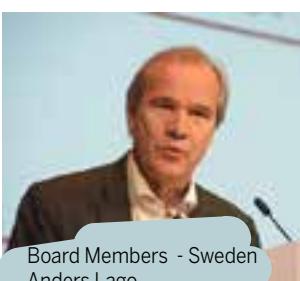
Board Members - Malaysia
Kamarudin Ismail



Board Members - Nepal
Om Devi Malla



Board Members - Singapore
Kok Kwong Kwek



Board Members - Sweden
Anders Lago



Board Members - UK
Ben Reid



Board Members - US
Martin Lowery



Sectoral Organisation Representatives
Bulgaria - Petar Stefanov



Sectoral Organisation Representatives
France - Isabelle Ferrand



Sectoral Organisation Representatives
Spain - Manuel Mariscal



Gender Equality Representative
Colombia - Maria Eugenia Pérez Zea



Youth Representative
France - Sébastien Chaillou

				
Bruno Roelants Director-General	Gretchen Hacquard Director of Membership	Georgia Papoutsi Policy Coordinator - International Development - ICA-EU Partnership Programme	Joseph Njuguna Policy Coordinator - Cooperative Entrepreneurship	Santosh P. Kumar Legislation Coordinator
				
Marc Noël International Development Director ICA-EU Partnership Programme	Leire Luengo Eslava Director of communications	Zuraidah Hoffman Interim Communications Director	Inés Seguí Communications Officer - ICA-EU Partnership Programme	Antonina Guarrella Events and Office Coordinator, Secretary of Statutory Meetings & Assistant of the Director-General
				
Andreea Teodora Coordination Officer - ICA-EU Partnership Programme	Hyungsik Eum Strategy and statistics coordinator	Jeffrey Moxom Research Coordinator - ICA-EU Partnership Programme	Véronique Bénet Director of Finance and Administration	Wendy Winkelhuijzen Finance and Administration Manager - ICA-EU Partnership Programme

ICA GLOBAL OFFICE STAFF

The ICA Global Office staff was strengthened in 2019, by welcoming new policy, legislation and financial staff with great expertise and capacity to serve our members. <https://www.ica.coop/en/about-us/our-team>



THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ICA REGIONS

COOPERATIVES
OF THE AMERICAS

COOPERATIVES
EUROPE

INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATIVE
ALLIANCE AFRICA

INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATIVE
ALLIANCE ASIA-PACIFIC

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE AFRICA



International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) President Ariel Guarco made a historical round trip to Eastern Africa. Visiting Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Ethiopia, the President met different ICA members, cooperatives, Ministers, legislators and government officials in charge of cooperatives development to discuss various topic together including finalizing the agreement with the Rwandan government on hosting the ICA Conference and GA.

In terms of capacity building, we have engaged some members in trainings like establishing and strengthening federations that took place in Nairobi - Kenya. In Zimbabwe, we trained a number of our members on policy dialogue and cooperative related themes focusing on 'cooperative entrepreneurship' and on functioning and advocacy towards the EU delegations. We also saw a breakthrough with the Global Cooperative Entrepreneurs (GCE) program training both mentors and ambassadors in Kenya and Uganda respectively. Our members also participated in a Seminar on Business Promotion among Cooperatives and Trade Fair in Xiamen, China. ILO-JCCU African Cooperative Leaders' Study Tour was held in Japan to encourage exchange of knowledge and experiences as well as exploring possible cooperation between African and Japanese cooperatives.

Furthermore, ICA-Africa engaged in cooperative development conference. In collaboration with ICA-Asia Pacific we held the 1st Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Cooperative Development Conference to exchange knowledge, develop common positions and promote collaboration to develop cooperatives in the region. Again, with ICA-AP, we did an Inter-Regional workshop on 'Cooperatives in Educational Institutions' to show case best cases from educational institutions in Japan, Malaysia, Lesotho and South Africa, held in Rwanda.

In realization of the 2030 Agenda, we engaged our members and other cooperatives in the region on the 'Promotion of Good Health and Well Being in Africa Through Cooperatives'. To sensitize cooperators on the need to address SDG3 through the promotion of health and wellbeing cooperatives in the region.

In advocating for policies, ICA-Africa participated in the 7th Policy Forum for Development (PFD) in Brussels. The ICA-Africa Youth Network President, Hilda Ojal also participated in the 3rd General Assembly of African Youth Commission on "the future is now, youth are not too young to lead", calling for youth to engage and participation in policy and decision-making processes. In March, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) organized for a group of experts in cooperatives; to review and reflect on experiences and lessons gained since the International Year of Cooperative (2012) and understanding the relation-

ships between the cooperative enterprise model and SDGs and delivering the outcomes of the world summit on social development. In June, ICA-Africa led the Kenyan cooperative delegation to visit the European Union Delegation (EUD) in Kenya for a bilateral meeting to introduce ICA-Africa, its activities and members and also to make a followed up with the EU delegation on the involvement of cooperatives in the review of the EU roadmap for 2018-2021.

Under institutional strengthening, we held the ICA-EU Partnership (#coops4dev) staff meeting in Nairobi Kenya for the Annual Review Meeting (ARM). The Alliance Africa Agricultural Cooperative Organization (AAACO) also opened a new office in Rwanda that is housed within National Cooperative Confederation of Rwanda (NCCR) premises. ICA-Africa later in October, held elections in Rwanda that saw Ms. Eve Tepsy elected as the first women representative to the ICA-Africa regional board while other five members were elected to the trustees' board.

To serve our members even better, we agreed with Aflatoun International to empower children and young people with social, financial, and entrepreneurial skills across the African continent. We also committed together with Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) to promote coop-to-coop business, organize cultural integration programs and trainings to empower cooperative farmers from the two regions. In December, ICA-Africa started talks with Pan-African Parliamentarian Monetary and Finance Committee to discuss possible partnerships, among them the cooperatives model law for Africa.

To increase the visibility of what some cooperatives are doing in the region, together with Aroundtheword.coop, we collaborated on the cooperative documentary on Coopérative Toudarte in Morocco and COOPRORIZ-Ntende in Rwanda. Buranga Cooperative featured in the Cooperatives and Peace: Strengthening Democracy, Participation and Trust publication on its contribution to healing wounds in Rwanda after the brutal genocide,

ICA-Africa membership stands at 39 member organizations spread out in 23 countries in the region as shown on the membership map.

COOPERATIVES OF THE AMERICAS



THE REGIONAL OFFICE OF THE AMERICAS WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1990 IN SAN JOSÉ, COSTA RICA.

As regional organization of the ICA, Cooperatives of the Americas “being consistent with its identity, watches over the cooperative values and principles; additionally, Cooperatives of the Americas integrates, represents, protects and promotes cooperatives as a model for building economic, social and environmental sustainability”.

Accordingly to its mission and due to the changes occurred alongside 2018 (election of new Board and President, appointment of a new Regional Director) the main objective of 2019 has been to set up a new strategy of the Region and its members: the 2020-2023 Strategic Plan of Cooperatives of the Americas has been designed through a participatory methodology made by three strategic sessions, a survey to the Board of Directors, a survey to the member organizations, interviews with its Sectorial and Thematic Committees and networks.

As a result of the process, the added value of being member of the Organization has been identified: this stands into Cooperatives of the Americas’ capacity of influencing intergovernmental organizations and national governments of the Region via its solid cooperative representation, as well as into the creation of opportunities of cooperation amongst cooperatives and the expansion of the model in the Region via dedicated service centres.

In this framework and with a focus on advocacy and knowledge exchange, in 2019 Cooperatives of the Americas

- organized its **21st Regional Conference** joined by more than 1000 people, high representatives of the three powers of the State of Costa Rica (Vice President of the Republic, President of the Parliament, President of the Supreme Court), Ministers of the Government of the Republic of Costa Rica (Minister of Labor, Minister of Economy, Minister of Environment, Deputy Minister of Labor) International organizations (FAO Global, FAO Regional, Organization of the American States -OAS, IICA, GRI, ILO, UN, UN Women, EU Delegation in Costa Rica);
- organized its 7th Continental Congress of Cooperative Law joined by 140 lawyers, cooperative law experts and cooperative leaders from all over the continent;
- signed an MoU with the Organization of the American States-OAS whose main objective is to set up new cooperatives as incubator of decent job creation and actors for mitigating migration flows;

- Set up a strategic dialogue **with UN ECLAC and FAO Regional** for joint projects via an MoU to be signed in 2020

With regards to project and fundraising opportunities for it members, in 2019 Cooperatives of the Americas

- implemented the ICA-EU Partnership program on cooperative development as planned.
- submitted a project proposal to the Delegation of the EU in Costa Rica for strengthening an associated coffee cooperative and preparation of a study on decent work: the project has been funded.
- Started with the operational phase of the project on resilience and cooperative development in areas affected by natural disasters financed by the Global Cooperatives UK-ICA aid;
- held a joint Board with IICA (Interamerican Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture) where a joint strategy and a pilot project for the development of the agriculture cooperatives was designed;
- facilitated knowledge exchange amongst its members by strengthening its “Cooperatives of the Americas Development Platform” (CADP) and the creation of an advisory service in project design and funding;

For the development of the cooperative movement and the governance of its bodies, in 2019 Cooperatives of the Americas

- held four Board meetings and three strategic sessions;
- realized several visits to its member organization, as well as joined many national events (Congresses, national conferences, sectorial meetings) organized by its member organizations;
- contributed to the realization of ICA Global Conference “Cooperatives in development”, held in Kigali, Rwanda by mobilizing speakers and experts;
- in partnership with the Labour Ministers from the national Governments of its Region, supported the ICA with the advocacy towards the ILO for the preparation of the “ILO Centenary Declaration on the Future of Work”

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE ASIA-PACIFIC



The Second ICA-AP Cooperative Registrar's Forum on Creating Enabling Legal Framework and Policies to Promote the Sustainable Development of Cooperatives in the 21st century in Vietnam, discussed challenges relating to food security, nature of work and employment, financial inclusion,

economic growth, gender equality and equity, and climate change, and highlighted the need to reinvent, remodel and reorganise cooperatives to maintain their relevance in a changing society.

The Resolution adopted by 315 participants from 22 countries, reaffirmed members' commitment to uphold the ICA Statement on the Cooperative Identity along with the UN Guidelines aimed at creating a supportive legal and policy environment for the development of cooperatives, and urged governments to adopt a progressive and enabling approach to cooperative regulation and adopt inclusivity by recognising and supporting all types of enterprises that observe the cooperative principles.

In line with its commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the ICA-AP regional office focused its activities on building capacities to further the involvement of cooperatives in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The capacity building program on Climate Action (SDG13), Save the Environment to Sustain Future Generations, prompted the Association of Asian Confederations of Credit Unions (ACCU) to include Climate Compliance as the 6th C of Credit in Lending and integrate climate actions in its Business Solutions. The ICA-AP Committee on Women addressed SDG 5: Gender Equality as both a cross cutting and 'stand-alone goal' and carried out a workshop and training to promote gender integration by looking into issues around parity, opportunity, safety, and mobility; helping identify challenges for women's participation in cooperatives, especially at management and decision making levels; and improving data, especially gender-disaggregated data.

The long-standing ICA-Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Government of Japan training projects for agriculture cooperatives and women in cooperatives have within them action plans developed by participants. The follow-up visits to Thailand and Mongolia showed the actions plans are being actively implemented. In Thailand, Prasetsri Mangkornsaksit and 50 women from her Tombon Kaset Pattan Women's group have set up a halal certified plant to package and market Aloe Vera drinks. In Mongolia, Otgonbolor G and Tuul. T supported the Suun Dalai Tsatsal cooperative to register a dairy cooperative and helped members set up a shop to sell milk and processed products (cheese, ice cream).

During the ICA General Assembly in Kigali, the ICA-AP Committee on Educational Institutions (ICEI) partnered

with ICA Africa under the ICA-EU Partnership (#coops-4dev) programme to share Asia-Pacific experiences and technical know-how on management of cooperatives in educational institutions with ICA members in Africa. The workshop has sown the seeds to promote cooperatives in educational institutions in Africa. ICA-AP organised Coopathon 2.0, a competition to popularise cooperatives and the spirit of entrepreneurship among youth, while leveraging technological solutions for problems faced by cooperatives. As a result of the Global Cooperative Entrepreneurship (GCE) training and Youth summits, we are seeing youth entrepreneurship taking root across the region. Some examples are Y-LEAD (Youth Leading in Enterprise and Agriculture Development) in the Philippines; cacao promotion in Indonesia; and the reinvigoration of Kopma (student cooperative) also in Indonesia towards innovation and identifying focused value-propositions.

ICA-APs research initiatives resulted in the publication of two reports: Cooperatives in Industrial and Service Sectors in the Asia-Pacific Region and Autonomy and Independence of Cooperatives in India. The ICA-AP Research Committee and the ICA Domus Trust have been encouraging young researchers and instituted the Dr. Mauritz Bonow Award for Young Researchers in 2016. At the 14th ICA-AP Research Conference at the University of Newcastle, Australia, the 2019 Award was presented to Heira Hardiyanti from Indonesia, and Jihyun Jeong from Korea. In 2019, ICA-AP came out with 15 country snapshots which provide an overview of the cooperative movement and contribution of cooperatives in each country.

The ICA-AP currently has 109 members from 32 countries. Details of ICA-AP's activities carried out with members across the region in 2019 can be viewed [here](#).

COOPERATIVES EUROPE



Cooperatives Europe represents over 141 million members across Europe from all sectors of activity.

The 2019 European Parliament elections and the appointment of the new European Commission presented an opportunity for the cooperative movement to put forward a political vision of a peoplecentred Europe, inclusive communities and democratic action through a dedicated campaign#CoopsInspireChange. With cooperatives and the European Union sharing the same values, the new network of supportive Members of the European Parliament (CoopSupporters) allows Cooperatives Europe to gather support for furthering cooperatives across Europe and beyond.

Members of Cooperatives Europe can also count on our efforts to advocate for a level playing field for cooperative enterprises in all sectors across Europe. Our advocacy efforts focus on a variety of issues including entrepreneurship (particularly SMEs), education, finance, gender, and also new forms of economy, to name a few. The expertise of Cooperatives Europe was recognised by its selection as jury for the European Enterprise Promotion Award (European Commission) which promotes entrepreneurship and small businesses at local, regional and national levels.

Cooperatives Europe also serves as a facilitator for our members to work together for common goals through projects co-funded by the European Union. For example CoopStarter 2.0 promotes cooperative entrepreneurship and start-ups to youth whilst bringing together youth organisations, and cooperative associations. Our approach and methodology has also inspired the Global Cooperative Entrepreneurs programme of #coops4dev, bringing the concept to a global level. Sharing, Collaboration, Cooperation (SCC) is another project that facilitates the emergence of new collaborative co-working spaces, bringing innovation to the collaborative economy sector through cooperatives. Finally, we are collaborating with cooperatives, training centres and universities through the Coop4Edu project to insert cooperatives into education through university curricula.

A request from our membership also saw the development of Cooperatives Europe Gender Working Group, which is actively conducting research, advocacy work and promotion

of women in cooperatives at the European level, with a participation to the ICA's gender committee.

2019 opens the door to opportunities with ICA-Europe research committee and confirmed the contribution of Cooperatives Europe within different ICA WG such as communication or legal framework. Coordination of the ICA-EU partnership on International Development (coops4dev) is shared by Cooperatives Europe and the ICA, promoting and advancing cooperatives worldwide. At European level, the partnership is an opportunity for our long-standing Cooperatives Europe Development Platform to continue their efforts in bringing cooperatives active in international development around a common project. The partnership activities at European level, including research, advocacy and events, such as the European development Day's with more than 8000 participants have solidified cooperative enterprises as key actors of change, democracy and development.

Cooperatives Europe brings together members from national cooperative organisations but also the European cooperative sectorial representatives. Together, with the participation of the President of the ICA, they met at the 2019 General Assembly in Strasbourg to review the current activities and develop new ones. Cooperatives in Europe, however different as they may be, big, or small, are united in their differences through common goals. It is a movement of solidarity and equality which continues to gain new ground at the European level, bringing cooperative values and principles closer to the people.

THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ICA SECTORS

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION (ICAO)



In 2019, the International Cooperative Agricultural Organization (ICAO) continued to focus on providing its membership with quality content through wide-ranging activities. In April, we held a capacity-building workshop in Korea for the staff members of member cooperatives, covering the country's cooperative history and business models. In May, our Executive Committee met in Oslo, Norway for a statutory annual meeting where the committee presented half-yearly country reports and listened to seminars delivered by outside experts on sustainable agriculture. In September, we had a General Meeting in Seoul, Korea attended by over 50 delegates from 23 countries.

The highlights of this year's ICAO activities were: the issue of the Oslo Declaration at the Norway EXCOM meeting to promote a better farming environment for small and medium farmers; and the announcement of the Seoul Vision at the General Meeting to communicate a global vision for the future of agriculture. The Oslo Declaration, which consists of eight paragraphs, calls on governments to subsidize insurance for crop damage and locally modified seeds, provide more tax subsidies to the agricultural sector, support and train future small and medium farmers to a greater extent, etc. The Seoul Vision, *Deliver Happiness for Farmers and Peace for the World*, is supported by three core values: **Harmony** between humans and nature; **Happy** farmers and happy people; **Bridge** to the future. The first calls for the need to farm in a way that minimizes damage to the environment, while the second underlines the importance of farmers living a good life for consumers to buy quality produce. The third refers to the ICAO's commitment to promoting sustainable agriculture to its membership as well as the rest of the world.

Going forward, the ideas and values provided in the Oslo Declaration and Seoul Vision will be incorporated into our work, which we hope will not only help our membership operate with shared objectives but also ultimately increase our global visibility, and by extension, our advocacy capabilities.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE BANKING ASSOCIATION (ICBA)

Revived, Reorganized & Reconstituted in October 2019

The ICA Board, at its meeting held in Matera on 28 March 2018, approved the Governance Committee's recommendation to **reorganize** the then **inactive** ICBA, as soon as possible in 2019. Having verified that the last ICBA General Assembly elections recorded were in 2011, the Governance Committee determined that the ICBA convene a General Assembly in October in Kigali with a call for candidates for the ICBA Presidency and Board. It was also agreed that the first, newly formed Board, should meet immediately following the General Assembly. The Reactivation of the ICA was unanimously approved by the Ordinary Members Meeting held on 12-10-2019 at Kigali, Rwanda. The first meeting of the reconstituted Board meeting of ICBA was held on the same day. **Mr. Bhima Subrahmanyam**, Managing Director/CEO, National Federation of State cooperative Banks (**NAFS-COB**), India was elected as President, ICBA. The extended meeting of the ICBA Board was held on 14-10-2019.

New Secretariat: The reconstituted Board of Directors initiated steps to reopen & reestablish contacts through various means of communication. The activities commenced with opening of a Secretariat for ICBA with courtesy of NAFSCOB an Indian member of ICA. ICBA decided to concentrate more on activities linked to technology adoption, digitalization, communication skills, areas of research, seminars/workshops /conference both national and international. Acquired domain name and also created & hosted first ever active ICBA website. (www.icba.coop)

Institutional Collaboration: ICBA established institutional collaboration with three International Organisations.

1. Associated with the activities of 6th World congress on Rural & Agriculture Finance: Critical input to Achieve inclusive & Sustainable Development organised in collaboration with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), India and Asia Pacific Rural & Agricultural Association (APRACA), Thailand on 12-13 November 2019 at New Delhi, India. Interacted with a number of organisations connected with Agriculture Cooperatives, Cooperative Financial Institutions, Cooperative Banks etc. from Asia Pacific, Europe, Africa, etc.
2. Associated with INAISE in the conference to discuss Regulatory & Supervisory aspects in Cooperative Banks, on 28-30 November 2019 at Agadir, Morocco. Established contacts and Coordination with Economic & solidarity groups from differ-

ent parts of the world.

3. Associated with Network for Development of Agricultural Cooperatives (NEDAC) in Asia Pacific held on 12-13, December 2019 in Colombo, Sri Lanka for sharing of experiences.

Board Meeting for Work Plan : The ICBA Board met within two months of its revival at Colombo, Sri Lanka to work out strategy for strengthening the very important banking sector-ICBA. It was held on 12-13 December 2019 to coincide with the EXCOM meeting of NEDAC. The work plan was prepared for presentation to ICA. The work Plan of ICBA focused more on organizing seminars for cooperative Financial Institutions, carrying out research studies etc.

Annual work plan with Budget: The ICBA annual work plan with Budget within the framework of

ICA strategic work plan as approved by ICBA Board has been prepared. **The work plan contemplated a number of programmes aimed to ensure the Viability and Financial Stability of Financial Cooperatives and Cooperative Banks.**

Membership: Prior to convening the meeting on 12-10-2019, there were 26 institutions as members of ICBA which went up to 32 as on 14-10-2019 representing 20 countries. The membership of ICBA has been increased to Forty (40) as on 13-12-2019. **ICBA made serious efforts to** mobilize new membership to ICBA and also towards consolidation of existing membership. ICBA made an attempt to establish contacts with another ICA Sectoral Organisations. **Membership Certificates:** ICBA presented Printed Membership Certificates to all 40 members as on December-2019.

Meeting with EACB: President, ICBA with the active support of Director General, ICA paved the way for discussions with Managing Director, EACB in his office in Brussels in the beginning of 2020, to consider an acceptable Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) & future collaboration.

The Reconstituted ICBA is youngest of all ICA sectoral organizations, working towards ensuring the financial stability of Cooperative banks & Cooperative Financial Institutions.





CARD MBA PHILIPPINES

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE AND MUTUAL INSURANCE FEDERATION (ICMIF)

For ICMIF 2019 was one of our best years. From a membership perspective we welcomed several new large mutual into membership including Wawanesa and SSQ from Canada and MAIF from France as well as industry giants such as Swiss Re, Aviva Investors, Peak Re and Berkley Re as supporting members adding to the diversity of knowledge and leadership within the ICMIF membership which now stands at 200 members in 70 countries.

The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the ICMIF Biennial Conference in Auckland, New Zealand attended by 320 delegates hosted by FMG. The three day conference was opened by the NZ Prime Minister Jacinda Arden and included video message from Achim Steiner Head of UNDP and keynote speech from Mami Mizutori Head of the UNDRR as well as many great speakers from ICMIF members and industry leaders. The feedback from those attending was that the ICMIF Conference had been raised to another level.

At the Conference we were able to announce three new global partnerships with key global organisations, namely; UNDP for microinsurance, the SDGs and creating an enabling environment for mutual and cooperatives to thrive; UNDRR to promote the move from protection to prevention; and Accounting for Sustainability (A4S) one of Prince Charles's initiatives focused on sustainable reporting and a key driver behind the Task-force for Climate-Related Financial Disclosure (TCFD). In addition ICMIF continues to be represented on the Insurance Development Forum (IDF) a public-private-mutual organisation it helped found in 2016 that is the industry and UN partnership to deliver the UN2030 Agenda. In 2020 we are already working with the UNEP on two key initiative 'Net Zero Alliance' and the 'Insurance SDGs'

and with the UNFCCC and Aviva Investors towards an investment commitment to be launched at COP26 next year. All these initiatives and partnerships include members that are involved in these industry leading initiatives.

ICMIF is nearly half way through its current strategy 2019-2022 which culminates in our 100 year Anniversary Conference in Rome in April 2022. The strategic objective is to 'help member organisations achieve their strategic goal and sustainably grow in their markets by leveraging the knowledge, competencies and experience of ICMIF's global network and representing the sectors interests to key stakeholders'. This leadership position is delivered via events, webinars, blogs, stories and a member engagement strategy that focuses on what each member needs in a bespoke plan. The strategy envisaged offering a virtual alternative to the existing face to face and communications that ICMIF currently offers by 2022. Covid-19 has escalated this strategy to the extent that a full virtual offering will be available to members this year which will include a new knowledge hub which currently has over 500 strategic content assets, there have been over 150 stories many featuring inspirational initiatives during Covid-19 from ICMIF members, there have been 30 webinars in the first six months this year giving members strategic information at the cutting-edge of the industry and in some cases being an alternative to existing events that had to be postponed. As well as this we have developed a virtual online mutual leadership training solution for members.

So from a membership and an influence perspective ICMIF and its members are at the leading edge and positioned well for the new normal and whatever that may throw at us.

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CONSUMERS COOPERATIVES WORLDWIDE (CCW)

CCW GA & CCW – ICAO Joint Session, ICA Global Conference (October, Kigali, Rwanda)

Within the framework of the ICA General Assembly and Global Conference in Kigali, Rwanda, CCW organised its biannual General Assembly, where members reported on their activities and deliberated on the strategy for the next two years. Further to that, CCW and ICAO were entrusted by the ICA to co-organise and moderate one of the event's sessions. Dedicated to the theme of SDG 12: Food Security and Sustainable Production and Consumption, consumer and agricultural co-operatives came together to explore their contribution to attaining the targets set within SDG12 and to identify key challenges and, of course, success. Issues of central importance were the following aspects: supporting co-operatives aimed at achieving higher degree of sustainable production; minimising food waste; promoting the necessity to combat climate change; raising awareness of the need to lead healthy lifestyles and thus preventing obesity, which is becoming an increasingly serious issue. An interesting parallel to explore further was the cohesion between the two global sectors in collaborating towards realization of sustainable production and responsible consumption. The presented content provided an excellent occasion for knowledge creation and sharing, firstly, among the two sectors and their national members, but also to the wider movement in showcasing the excellence generated by the consumer and agricultural co-operatives to global challenges facing humanity.

CCW Policy Guide

CCW developed a Strategic Policy Guide which addresses the regulatory, legislative and policy barriers to markets for co-operatives and to identify policy opportunities that co-operatives can contribute to. Its principal use is to develop coherent policy positions that can be used by CCW members. To achieve these objectives, the Policy Guide explores the important contribution consumer cooperatives to our global economy and society. It shows how these businesses, focused on their core purpose of serving their consumer-members, improve the lives of people around the world. However, they still face numerous obstacles to their future growth, and this Report identifies the restrictions which prevent consumer co-operatives from maximising their potential.

The Policy Guide undoubtedly generates value for national



SINGAPORE

members, especially in the field of advocacy. It also proactively contributes to conveying a positive and strong image of consumer co-operatives to external stakeholders, which will be beneficial for their recognition, reputation and ultimately, their partnerships with national and international institutions.

International Co-operative Forum (September, Petrovo, Kaluga, Russian Federation)

CENTROSOYUZ, Russia organised and hosted the International Co-operative Forum "New Co-operation", which saw the participation of CCW members and high-level international co-operative organisations such as ICA, Cooperatives Europe, and Euro Coop. Prof. Petar Stefanov – CCW President was the moderator of one of the sessions dedicated to innovation and consumer co-operatives, within which the CCW Strategic Policy Guide was presented and a keynote speech given by CENTROSOYUZ Chairman Dmitry Zubov.



INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF INDUSTRIAL, ARTISANAL AND SERVICE PRODUCERS' COOPERATIVES (CICOPA)

In 2019, CICOPA had two boards online, and one Congress in person that took place during the ICA Global Congress in Kigali, Rwanda. During the Congress, the members could elect the new president, Inigo Albizuri Landazabal from the Mondragon Corporation (Spain) and the new board members.

The Congress has also ratified the admission of a new associate member: The Union of Legitimate Service Contractor Cooperatives (ULCCS) from Philippines, already direct member of ICA. CICOPA represents now 49 member organisations in 32 countries worldwide in the industry and services sector.

During the ICA Global Conference, CICOPA also co-organised with IHCO (the International Health Cooperatives Organisation) a successfully held joint session on "How health, industrial and services cooperatives contribute to reducing inequalities".

In addition, our newly elected president intervened at ICA global conference plenary on how cooperatives contribute to decent work.

During the ICA general assembly, CICOPA also launched a statement on "Peace in Northern Syria" following the wave of violence that has threatened the towns and villages in the region.

Last year, CICOPA had also pursued its work on the topic of the Future of Work: former CICOPA President intervened in the ICA/ILO joint conference "Cooperatives and the Future of Work, Geneva (24 June 2019); the book "Cooperatives and the World of Work" was presented; and CICOPA reacted to the ILO's report "Working For a Brighter Future".

Moreover, CICOPA collaborated with ICA on the identification of sector-oriented indicators to the contribution of cooperatives to the Sustainable Development Goals.

In November, CICOPA took part in the Conference on "Platform Cooperativism" in New York.

Additionally, CICOPA has collaborated with the Government of Singapore on a strategy for the development and promotion of worker and social cooperatives in Singapore.

In the Asia Pacific, CICOPA in partnership with ICA AP did a study on cooperatives on industry and service sectors in the Region.

Finally, CICOPA contributed to the promotion of the Social Cooperatives International School 5th edition, Naples Italy, organized by our Italian member Confcooperative - Federsolidarietà..

COOPERATIVE HOUSING INTERNATIONAL (CHI)



With over 30 members in over 70 countries and through an active board of directors and dedicated staff, CHI delivers a relevant work program in harmony with the strategic objectives of the ICA. Promoting cooperative housing as an economic and social solution to the problem of providing shelter is at the core of our communications strategy. In addition, CHI supports and provides guidance to CHI members, often in collaboration with Housing Europe and Cooperatives Europe.

It was a busy and successful year for facilitating networking opportunities among existing and upcoming cooperative leaders. Panel discussions and symposiums at the International Social Housing Festival (ISHF) in Lyon, France, including the sessions “Innovative Development Involving Partnerships” and “Reinventing the Culture of Finance For Collaborative Housing And City-Making” with panelists from Italy, Sweden, Switzerland, Canada, Chile and El Salvador highlighted good practices from around the globe. Discussing key issues among a wide array of practitioners is ensuring that cooperative housing remains an innovative and flexible housing model that is adaptable to local housing needs. Also at the ISHF, CHI supported an architectural exhibition and roundtable on Zurich’s housing cooperatives.

It was a busy year for study visits, the first being in Manila, Philippines with CHI and WeEffect meeting with new CHI members Federation of Peoples’ Sustainable Development Cooperative (FPSDC) followed by a trip to Bukavu, DRCongo after the Kigali congress to meet Action Sociale et d’Organisation Paysanne (ASOP) and 30 representatives of NGOs, cooperatives and regional government. Lastly, a study visit during the ICA Americas regional conference in San Jose, Costa Rica, with a local cooperative housing group in La Carpio, an informal settlement of mostly Nicaraguan refugees.

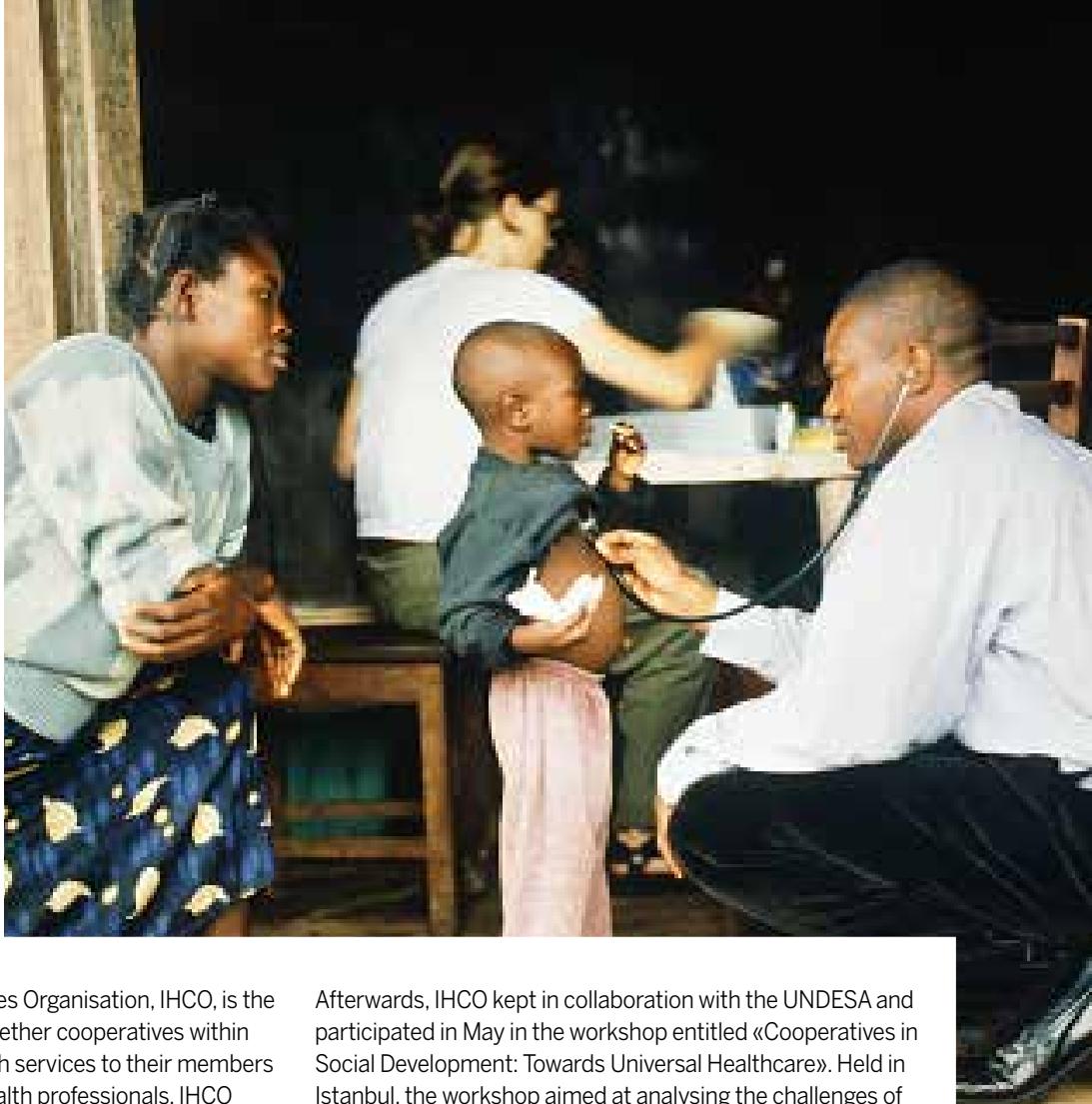
To highlight gender equality and the SDGs, CHI produced a series of videos with former CHI board member and current ICA board member, Alexandra Wilson. The videos were widely shared on social media and added to our website’s video resources.

One of CHI’s roles is facilitating networking opportunities that link emerging cooperators with established CHI members. One such event was an invitation to MOBA (Central East European Cooperative Network) to present their work at our Lyon board meeting in June 2019. This has subsequently led to MOBA receiving seed funding from CHI member, ABZ. Another event that CHI was involved with for the second consecutive year is a two-day symposium on cooperative housing in Kiev, Ukraine with participating speakers from CHI members NAHC (USA), NBBL (Norway), HSB (Sweden) and Bauverein, Halle & Leuna (Germany). A collaboration with UrbaMonde, Asian Coalition of Housing Rights and CHF Canada paved the way for capacity building and knowledge sharing among housing cooperatives in Thailand and Malaysia in October. CHI also continued its role in facilitating the building of the emerging Canadian CLT network which has grown in leaps and bounds since its inception the previous year at a Co-Habitat Network regional event in the USA where CHI facilitated the participation of Canadian participants thanks to scholarship funds it raised.

Relationship building was at the forefront of CHI President and its Secretary General attending the International Conference of Cooperative Housing in Cairo, Egypt in December which has culminated in the General Authority for Construction and Cooperative Housing Egypt (CHC) becoming ICA and CHI members.

Sustainability remained at the heart of CHI’s activities in 2019 with the implementation of ICA’s SDG initiative on the development of targets and indicators. CHI worked with a consultant to develop communications and outreach material which culminated in developing housing specific goals, targets and indicators, now published on our website. CHI is also the cooperative housing representative in a Canadian working group (Centre of Excellence in Accounting and Reporting for Co-operatives (CEARC) to measure contributions to the UN’s SDGs by the Canadian cooperative sector. Good sustainability practices in housing cooperatives around the globe were presented at the Cooperative Summit of the Americas in San José, Costa Rica in November as well as at a panel discussion at International Conference of Cooperative Housing in Cairo, Egypt in December. The ICA Congress in Kigali, Rwanda was also a great opportunity to cross-pollinate with other sectors to highlight sustainability initiatives during the parallel session on Housing and Energy, the Cooperative Way. It brought together panelists from Global Communities (Kenya), Bauverein Halle & Leuna (Germany), ABZ (Switzerland), WeEffect (Sweden), NRECA Int’l (USA), RESCoop

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE HEALTH ORGANISATION (IHCO)



The International Health Cooperatives Organisation, IHCO, is the sectoral organisation that brings together cooperatives within the ICA membership providing health services to their members or providing self-employment for health professionals. IHCO members are active in primary and specialised healthcare, run hospitals, offer health insurance, provide socio-healthcare, foster prevention and health literacy or manufacture and distribute pharmaceuticals.

In 2019, IHCO set out three goals with far-reaching impact:

- To raise the public awareness of the contribution of cooperatives to the health systems, increasing their visibility and facilitating their advocacy and lobbying actions at the national and local levels.
- To become IHCO into a knowledge reference for cooperatives active in the healthcare sector, collecting, producing and sharing information
- To extend the IHCO membership in order to build a consolidated network that eases inter-cooperation and mutually beneficial relations between members worldwide.

To achieve these goals, IHCO carried out many activities, some of them are mentioned in the following paragraphs.

IHCO was invited to participate in the Experts Group Meeting on «Harnessing the power of cooperatives to achieve sustainable development for all», organised by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UNDESA in March. The meeting brought together in Nairobi, Kenya, a group of experts on cooperatives who reflected on the lessons learned since the International Year of Cooperatives. Participants also conducted expert analysis and made policy recommendations that informed the preparation of the UN Secretary-General's report on cooperatives in social development.

Afterwards, IHCO kept in collaboration with the UNDESA and participated in May in the workshop entitled «Cooperatives in Social Development: Towards Universal Healthcare». Held in Istanbul, the workshop aimed at analysing the challenges of cooperatives in the healthcare sector and the role they can play as a tool for development in low- and middle-income countries.

Thanks to close collaboration with the United Nations, the Secretary-General's report submitted to the UN General Assembly acknowledged the role of cooperatives in healthcare provision and stated that «health cooperatives have been serving their members and their communities in various forms for the past two centuries, even in countries with robust universal public health systems». In addition, it underlined that health cooperatives «aim to engage all stakeholders, to jointly manage costs and risks and to achieve the utmost quality in care provision» and «have demonstrated their capacity to adapt to new socio-economic contexts and to continue to serve the evolving health needs of populations».

IHCO took an active part in the Africa Cooperative Conference, held in Harare, Zimbabwe. It was an excellent example of the inter-cooperation between the ICA Africa regional office and IHCO. Under the title «Promotion of good health and wellbeing in Africa through cooperatives», the primary purpose of the conference was to raise awareness on the need to address the SDG 3 through promoting the cooperative business model in the health, wellbeing and insurance sectors.

In December, IHCO participated in the Global Forum on Health Promotion, hosted by the World Health Organisation, where representatives of governments, civil society and international organisations gathered to discuss how to put in practice the historical declaration adopted by the UN High-Level Meeting regarding Universal Health Coverage.

THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ICA THEMATIC COMMITTEES AND YOUTH NETWORK



GENDER EQUALITY COMMITTEE (GEC)

Cooperatives make their voice heard at the Commission on the Status of Women

Representatives from the Gender Equality Committee (GEC) took active part in the different plenary sessions and side events during the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), that took place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 11 to 22 March 2019. The CSW is instrumental in promoting women's rights, documenting the reality of women's lives throughout the world, and shaping global standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women and the 2019's edition focused on "Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls".

The global GEC delegation was composed by Maria Eugenia Pérez Zea (chair of the ICA GEC), Nandini Azad (chair of the ICA Asia - Pacific GEC), Xiomara Nuñez De Cespedes (Americas GEC chair and ICA GEC vice-president) and Gisela Wild (Americas GEC secretary, from Argentina). Through their interventions at different sessions that were organized during the CSW, the GEC representatives addressed topics such as gender violence, gender gap, domestic workers, microinsurance, etc while highlighting the important role that cooperatives can play for women's empowerment and gender equality due to their values and principles. The GEC areas of intervention were relevant and impactful for the Cooperative movement considering the Declaration on decent work and against harassment, that was voted during the ICA General Assembly in Buenos Aires, 2018.

On Saturday 12 October, ahead of the International Conference on Development that took place in Kigali, Rwanda different case studies of cooperatives in different sectors are working to promote gender equality in their enterprises and communities were showcased as part of the seminar that discussed the role of women co-operators in 21st century.

Representatives of GEC from the different regions had the opportunity to share experiences of feminism within the different context of operation and existence of the cooperative movement. The common denominator of their interventions was based both on the nexus of feminism and cooperativism but also on the fact that the cooperative identity

Cooperative Development Program in Paraguay: Helping Women Become Agricultural Leaders



itself promotes equality as basic human right. The wealth of experiences and lessons learnt from the session has been projected through different articles and social platforms that focus on feminism and transformative economies.

The annual Assembly was held, was the occasion to welcoming Prof. Esther Gicheru, chair of ICA Africa committee on Gender and Research, as a member of the ICA Gender Equality Committee. The different activities implemented by the Global ICA-GEC and the regional committees were presented and the draft strategy of the ICA for the next decade discussed, among other topics. The meeting also helped to put the foundation of the 4 years working plan, which is focused on five pillars: Membership, Funding, Visibility, Policy and Research, with the activities to be implemented in each region.

International Women's Day celebration

As each year, the GEC celebrated the International Women's Day on the 8 March 2019 by highlighting how cooperatives are contributing to women's empowerment. Through social media and under the hashtag #genderequality and #coops4de-genderequality cooperatives all over the world showcased how the cooperative model is empowering women while putting them at forefront of development.

Maria Eugenia Pérez Zea, as the GEC's president and on behalf of the global committee shared a message callingg for the advancement of a solidarity-based economy, as a solution to gender equality thanking into consideration its values and essence of democratic participation, inclusion, the common good and equality.



Feminism in the 21st century: What does it mean for women cooperators? - side event during the ICA International Conference on Development



GLOBAL YOUTH NETWORK (GYN)

The Youth Network published a newsletter in December 2019 highlighting youth participation, the ICA General Assembly 2019 and workshop in Kigali to where youth from all over the world met to exchange and share ideas on how to help drive cooperation. [here](#)

In 2019, the Youth Network was busy working with the ICA within the framework of the ICA-EU Partnership (coops4dev) programme to organise the first Global Youth Forum on Cooperative Entrepreneurship 2020 which took place 3-7 February 2020 in Malaysia.

The Youth Network presented a resolution to the ICA General Assembly on 17 October 2019 to strengthen the ICA Youth Network calling on the ICA to reinforce the importance of the regional youth committees and their participation with a vote at the regional level in the ICA Boards; introduce the youth action plan in the general ICA Global Strategy; allocate resources to support the youth representatives to attend ICA official events and assuring a yearly in-person youth committee meeting; and introduce different measures and tools to make the Global Youth Network more accessible. This resolution was approved unanimously and received by the General Assembly with a standing ovation. [here](#)

The ICA Youth Network continued the project to map all youth cooperatives and cooperative initiatives that empower youth. An analysis of the findings and an interactive online map showing youth coops will be available in 2020. [here](#)



COOPERATIVE LAW COMMITTEE (CLC)

CLC is constituted of legal experts from all four ICA Regions as well as a member of the ICA Board who acts as liaison with the committee members. The committee aims to provide independent legal advice to the ICA on matters concerning cooperative law which is broadly defined to include all legal rules that shape the cooperative institution and regulate its operations. CLC was established by the ICA General Assembly in 2013 in Cape Town (South Africa) and was reconstituted on the sidelines of the ICA General Assembly and Conference on 13 October 2019 in Kigali (Rwanda) with Prof. Hagen Henry of the University of Helsinki (Finland) as Chairperson for a period of four years until 2023. In the duration of the period prior to its reconstitution this year, the committee, through its chairperson facilitated exchange of legal knowledge and critical analysis of cooperative law in and the Civil Code of, the Kyrgyz Republic, at the request of the ICA Asia and Pacific following its receipt of a letter from the Committee on Agri-Water-Ecology & Regional Development of the Jorogku Kenesh (Kyrgyz National Parliament). Also, in this duration, the chairperson held extensive meetings and experience-sharing session with the newly appointed Legislation Coordinator on the background, nature of activities, administrative practices and expectations of the CLC. Legal experts and representatives of ICA Member Organizations were nominated following a consultative process with the ICA Regional Boards through ICA Regional Directors and were appointed by the ICA Global Board in September 2019.

Current members of the committee include Ms. Florence Raineix, Executive Director of the National Federation of Caisses d'Epargne (FNCE) as ICA Board Liaison, Dr. Bhagwati Prasad, Vice President of Sahakari Awad Nirman Evam Vitt Nigam Ltd. (India), Ms. Ann Apps, Lecturer at Newcastle Law School (Australia), Dr. Ifigeneia Douvitsa, Adjunct Lecturer on Social Solidarity Economy at Hellenic Open University (Greece), Prof. Antonio Fici, Professor of Private law at the University of Molise (Italy), Dr. Moses Mugisha, Executive Director, Pullida Uganda Limited (Uganda), Mr. Alphonse Mbuya, Assistant Lecturer in Law at Moshi Cooperative University (Tanzania), Mr. Frank Lowery, formerly with the Co-operators Group (Canada) and Dr. Dante Cracogna, Professor of Law at the University of Buenos Aires (Argentina). The Committee is expected to operationalise its four year work plan starting 2020 including working closely with the ICA Board Committee on Cooperative Identity and encouraging participation of members and at the 3rd International Forum on Cooperative Law organized by Ius Cooperativum network of cooperative lawyers during the 33rd World Cooperative Congress in Seoul (Republic of Korea). This meeting in Kigali was attended by Mr. Martin Lowery, Chairperson of the ICA Board Committee on Cooperative Identity and Mr. Paul Hazen of the Overseas Cooperative Development Council that has given cooperatives the Cooperative Law and Regulation Initiative or CLARITY, a tool created in 2005 that aims to help national cooperative movements in developing countries create a legal and regulatory environment that enables cooperative businesses to flourish. This meeting also set the tone for the ICA to engage deeper into structuring its legislation related work in close collaboration with the then newly appointed ICA Legislation Coordinator and the ICA Board. The CLC has initiated a permanent discussion on the allocation of work related to legal matters in view of serving ICA members effectively and efficiently. Subsequent to this milestone meeting in Rwanda and towards the end of the 2019, ICA was contacted by its regional for Africa to seek the legal expertise of the CLC in assisting the joint pursuit of ICA Africa and the Finance & Monetary Committee of the Pan African Parliament to propose to the African Union, a legal text and policy document for what can be a 'Model Law' for cooperatives in Africa.



COMMITTEE ON COOPERATIVE RESEARCH (CCR)

The Committee on Cooperative Research (CCR) is a Thematic Committee of the International Co-operative Alliance. It serves to provide a bridge between academic research and the co-operative practice. In existence since 1957, the CCR aims to strengthen research activities and increase the visibility of the cooperative movement. The committee is particularly interested in ensuring that co-operative leaders and members have access to the latest research so that the results can inform current co-operative practice.

Activities in 2019

CCR organized regional and global conferences; Young scholars' meetings and workshops; oversaw publication of the International Review of Cooperation and a joint book publication with the ILO and CICOPA; and contributed to the ICA activities, including conferences, World Cooperative Monitor, work on cooperative statistics, and other.

CCR Chair also serves in advisory and organizing roles (eg. the Congress Task Force).

CCR CONFERENCES:

- Global conference: Joint-conference of ICA CCR, the Association of Cooperatives Educators (ACE) and the Canadian Association for Studies in Cooperation (CASC) (27-30 May, 2019, Montreal, Canada)
- ICA CCR European Research Conference (21-23 August, 2019, Berlin, Germany)
- Africa Cooperative Researchers' Meeting (14 October, 2019, Kigali, Rwanda)
- ICA CCR Asia-Pacific Research Conference (12-14 December, 2019, Newcastle, Australia)

• YOUNG SCHOLARS PROGRAMME (YSP)

YSP Montreal (27 May 2019); YSP Berlin (21 August 2019); YSP Kigali (14 October 2019).

CONTRIBUTION TO THE ICA ACTIVITIES:

- Consultation on the Strategic Plan
- ICA-ILO conference on Cooperatives and the Future of Work (24 June 2019, Geneva, Switzerland).

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS (CHAIR, ON BEHALF OF CCR):

- Presentation at the: Measuring and Reporting Sustainability Performance: Are Corporations and SSE Organizations Meeting the SDG Challenge? (organized by UNRISD, 3-4 June 2019, Geneva, Switzerland)
- Contributor to Expert workshop on "Opportunities and Challenges of Statistics on the Social and Solidarity Economy" (co-organized by UNTFSSE, UNRISD, ICA, CIRIEC, Social Economy Europe, EESC, 4 November, Brussels, Belgium)
- Contributor to Sustainability Performance Indicators (UNRISD); workshops and a publication, Sustainability indicators from the cooperative perspective.

PUBLICATIONS

- Review of International Cooperation Volume 105/2019 (edited by CASC)
 - Cooperatives and the World of Work (co-edited by CICOPA, ICA CCR and ILO Coop)
- Besides these ongoing activities, CCR members are regular contributors to research and policy briefings and projects in their regions as experts on cooperatives.



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT PLATFORM (ICDP)

ICDP physical meeting – 13 October 2019, Kigali

This meeting gathered 34 participants from 19 Cooperative Development Organizations (CDOs) acting across the globe on international cooperative development. These CDOs used the 3rd official meeting of the International Cooperative Development Platform (ICDP) to take stock of the ongoing activities of the ICDP, and to look into future collaborations as well as strengthen cooperation between development agencies and actors. SDG17, building Partnerships, was the guiding theme of the meeting.

Main take-aways were that members wanted to focus on entrepreneurship, the inclusion of youth, equity and the role of cooperatives in the future of work and other social issues. The need for building up the ecosystem and enabling environment for cooperatives was underlined. The members also foresee a role for the ICDP to connect cooperatives with possible partners outside of the cooperative movement. They consider "Tuesday Talks" as a first step towards more systematic knowledge sharing and expressed commitment in tying the work of the ICDP to the international development work of the ICA.

ICDP Tuesday Talks around international cooperative development

The Tuesday Talks are Webinars about and around the work of the ICDP members. Each webinar looks into the work of one organization in a webinar format: after a short introduction, containing vision and mission, main priorities of intervention, link with SDGs and geographical focus, participants ask questions and interact with the speaker in order to boost dialogue and cooperation. Since Kigali, 10 webinars took place, having a rhythm of 2 per month. Previous Tuesday Talks are always available on YouTube and the www.coops4dev.coop website.

ICDP Directory

The directory is a small booklet, featuring the cooperative development organisations of the platform. Main characteristics of each organization are displayed, such as website, base of operations, year of foundation, main geographic areas of interest, donor collaborations and contact details. It is a 'living' document, continuously updated with latest information about CDOs, in order to share knowledge and cooperation.



THE .COOP DOMAIN, THE GLOBAL DIRECTORY AND THE COOPERATIVE MARK (DOTCOOP)

DotCoop (www.identity.coop) - home of the .coop domain name registry, the .coop Global Directory, and the Cooperative Marque - promotes and elevates the identity of Cooperatives online and improves their ability to participate and thrive in the digital economy for greater and more equitable access to economic opportunities.

DotCoop's identity tools have been uniting and promoting the global cooperative movement since 2001, as a global network of businesses with shared values and principles. With the use of the internet in business expanding exponentially since then (along with the introduction of over 1000 new domain name extensions), the .coop domain has both a remarkable legacy and has served an important role into 2019, as the online home and identity for Cooperative businesses to stand out globally among all others.

DotCoop continues to promote entrepreneurship and has welcomed many new organizations in their first step to forming as a cooperative - elevating their identity as a cooperative and guiding them to the many regional and specialized resources within the movement to lift their business.

Throughout 2019 and looking into 2020, DotCoop and the ICA are working collaboratively to promote and support the ICA's regional teams and members. The programs and DotCoop's activities to promote Cooperatives include:

- Global Youth Forum – Educational sessions on entrepreneurship and digital branding.
- ICA General Assembly and Global Conference – Providing digital education and service for the conference in Kigali, Rwanda.
- The International Day of Cooperatives (#coopsday)
 - Mobilizing a global media ambassador program to raise awareness of Cooperatives.
- Cooperative Stories – Numerous publications highlighting the impact of Cooperative businesses around the globe.
- Co-Op Academy – Educational webinar of .coop, the online Cooperative identifier and digital brand.

Finn McCullagh of DotCoop at ICA Conference in Kigali

Did you know?

The .coop domain name that has been in use the longest is aciamericas.coop, first registered in June 2001. This domain name belongs to ACI Americas, the International Cooperative Alliance's regional office in San Jose, Costa Rica.

LIST OF MEMBERS

COUNTRY	ORGANISATION
ANGOLA	Cooperativa De Credito Para Os Funcionários Da Presidência (COOCREFP)
ARGENTINA	Confederación Cooperativa de la República Argentina Ltda. (COOPERAR)
ARGENTINA	Federación Argentina de Cooperativas de Consumo (FACC)
ARGENTINA	Instituto Movilizador de Fondos Cooperativos, Cooperativa Ltda. (IMFC)
ARGENTINA	Banco Credicoop Cooperativo Ltd. (BCCL)
ARGENTINA	Sancor Cooperativa de Seguros Ltda
ARGENTINA	La Segunda Cooperativa Limitada Seguros Generales
ARGENTINA	Agricultores Federados Argentinos Sociedad Cooperativa Limitada (AFA S.C.L.)
ARGENTINA	Confederacion Nacional de Cooperativas de Trabajo (CNCT)
ARGENTINA	Cooperativa de Provisión y Comercialización de Servicios Comunitarios de Radiodifusión COLSECOR Limitada (COLSECOR)
ARGENTINA	Cooperativa de Trabajos Portuarios Limitada de San Martin (Coop Portuaria)
ARMENIA	"Farm Credit Armenia" Universal Credit Organization Commercial Cooperative (FCA UCO CC)
AUSTRALIA	Capricorn Society Ltd
AUSTRALIA	Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited (CBH Group)
AUSTRALIA	Business Council of Co-operatives and Mutuals (BCCM)
AUSTRIA	Oesterreichischer Verband gemeinnütziger Bauvereinigungen - Revisionsverband (gbv)
BANGLADESH	National Co-operative Union of Bangladesh (Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union-BJSU)
BANGLADESH	Bangladesh Samabaya Bank Limited (BSBL)
BELARUS (Rep. of)	Belarussian Republican Union of Consumer Societies (BELKOOPSOUZ)
BELGIUM	Febecoop
BELGIUM-INT	European Association of Co-operative Banks (EACB)
BHUTAN	Department of Agricultural Marketing and Cooperatives (DAMC)
BOLIVIA	Cooperativa de Telecomunicaciones Santa Cruz (COTAS Ltda.)
BOLIVIA	Cooperativa Rural De Electrificación R.L. (CRE R.L.)
BOLIVIA	Cooperativa Boliviana de Cemento, Industrias y Servicios - COBOCE LTDA
BOTSWANA	Botswana Co-operative Association (BOCA)
BRAZIL	Organizaçao das Cooperativas Brasileiras (OCB)

BRAZIL	Central Nacional das Cooperativas Ontontológicas (Uniodonto do Brasil)
BRAZIL	Central Nacional Unimed - Cooperativa Central (CNU)
BRAZIL	Cooperativa de Crédito de Livre Admissão de Associados Pioneira da Serra Gaúcha – Sicredi Pioneira RS
BRAZIL	Unimed Seguros Saúde S.A.
BRAZIL	Cooperativa de Trabalho Médico de Ribeirão Preto (COMERP)
BULGARIA	Central Co-operative Union (CCU)
BULGARIA	National Union of Workers Producers Co-operatives of Bulgaria (NUWPCB)
BULGARIA	Central Co-operative Bank Plc (CCB)
CANADA	Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada / Coopératives et mutuelles Canada (CMC)
CHILE	COOPEUCH Ltda. Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito
CHILE	Cooperativa abierta de vivienda Limitada (CONAVICOOP)
CHINA (P.R. of)	All China Federation Of Supply & Marketing Co-operatives (ACFSMC)
CHINA (P.R. of)	All China Federation of Handicraft Industry Co-operatives (ACFHIC)
CHINA (P.R. of)	International Committee for the Promotion of Chinese Industrial Co-operatives (ICCIC)
CHINA (P.R. of)	Heilongjiang Guhe Cooperative Association (Guhe)
COLOMBIA	Asociación Colombiana de Cooperativas (ASCOOP)
COLOMBIA	Confederación de Cooperativas de Colombia (CONFECOOP)
COLOMBIA	La Equidad Seguros
COLOMBIA	Cooperativa Médica del Valle y Profesionales de Colombia (COOMEVA)
COLOMBIA	Casa Nacional del Profesor (CANAPRO)
COLOMBIA	Financiera Progressa
COLOMBIA	Cooperativa del Magisterio (CODEMA)
COLOMBIA	Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia (UCC)
COLOMBIA	Caja Cooperativa CREDICOOP (CREDICOOP)
COLOMBIA	Banco Cooperativo Coopcentral
COLOMBIA	Cooperativa Empresarial Multiactiva Popular (COEMPOPULAR)
COLOMBIA	Asociación Nacional de Fondos de Empleados (ANALFE)
CONGO (Dem. Rep. of)	Cooperative d'épargne et de Credit de Nyawera (COOPEC NYAWERA)
COSTA RICA	Banco Popular y de Desarrollo Comunal (BPDC)
COSTA RICA	Consejo Nacional de Cooperativas (CONACOOP)
COSTA RICA	Sociedad de Seguros de Vida del Magisterio Nacional (SSVMN)
COSTA RICA	Centro de Estudio y Capacitación Cooperativa R.L. (CENEKOOP R.L.)
COSTA RICA	Instituto Nacional de Fomento Cooperativo (INFOCOOP)

COSTA RICA	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Ande N° 1 R.L. (Coope Ande N°1 R.L.)
COSTA RICA	COOPSERVIDORES R.L.
COTE D'IVOIRE	Fédération des Unions des Sociétés Coopératives des Producteurs de la Filière Coton de Côte d'Ivoire (FPC-CI Coop CA)
CROATIA	Croatian Centre for Cooperative Entrepreneurship (CCCE)
CURACAO	Ministry of Economic Development (MEO)
CYPRUS	Co-operative Central Bank Ltd. (CCB)
CYPRUS	Cyprus Turkish Co-operative Central Bank Ltd (KoopBank)
CYPRUS	Civil Servants Co-op Ltd. (ME-KOOP LTD.)
CZECH REPUBLIC	Co-operative Association of the Czech Republic (CACR)
DENMARK	Kooperationen
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Cooperativa Nacional de Servicios Múltiples de los Maestros (COOPNAMA)
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples de Profesionales de Enfermería, Inc. (COOPROENF)
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Fundacion Dominicana para el Desarollo Social y Cooperativo (FUNDESCOOP)
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples La Telefónica (COOPSEMUTEL)
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Cooperativa Vega Real (CVR)
ECUADOR	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Policia Nacional (CPN)
ECUADOR	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Rio Bamba Ltda. (COAC Rio Bamba)
EL SALVADOR	Federación de Asociaciones Cooperativas de Ahorro y Crédito de El Salvador de R.L. (FEDECACES)
ETHIOPIA	Oromia Coffee Farmers Co-operative Union (OCFCU) Ltd.
ETHIOPIA	Awach Savings and Credit Cooperative (ASCCo)
FIJI	Nasinu Land Purchase & Housing Co-operative Limited (NLPHCL)
FIJI	Department of Co-operative Business (DCB)
FINLAND	Pellervo Coop Center
FINLAND	SOK Corporation
FRANCE	Fédération Nationale des Caisses d'Epargne (FNCE)
FRANCE	Crédit Coopératif
FRANCE	Confédération Générale des SCOP (CGSCOP)
FRANCE	Confédération Nationale du Crédit Mutuel
FRANCE	Fédération Nationale des Coopératives de Consommateurs (FNCC)
FRANCE	Coop FR
GERMANY	Zentralverband deutscher Konsumgenossenschaften e.V. (Zdk)

GERMANY	GdW Bundesverband deutscher Wohnungs- und Immobilienunternehmen e.V.
GERMANY	Dgrv - Deutscher Genossenschafts- Und Raiffeisenverband E. V.
GHANA	Ghana Co-operative Council (GCC)
GHANA	Ghana Cooperative Agricultural Producers and Marketing Association (AGRIC COOP GHANA)
GHANA	Easy Investment Co-op Credit Union Ltd. (EICCU)
GREECE	Social Solidarity and Regional Development Network (KAPA Network)
GUATEMALA	Confederación Guatemalteca de Federaciones Cooperativas, Responsabilidad Limitada (CONFECOOP)
GUINEA	Fédération des coopératives d'approvisionnement et de l'alimentation générale (FECAAG)
HAITI	Union Cooperative de Credit Agricole et Rural d'Haiti (UNICAGRIH)
HONDURAS	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito 'Sagrada Familia' Ltda.
HONDURAS	Federación de Cooperativas de Ahorro y Crédito de Honduras, Ltda. (FACACH)
HONDURAS	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Educadores de Honduras Limitada (COACEHL Ltda.)
HUNGARY	National Federation of Agricultural Co-operatives and Producers (MOSZ)
INDIA	Indian Farmers Fertiliser Co-operative (IFFCO)
INDIA	Krishak Bharati Co-operative Ltd. (KRIBHCO)
INDIA	National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED)
INDIA	National Co-operative Agriculture & Rural Development Banks' Federation Ltd (NCARDB Federation)
INDIA	National Co-operative Consumers Federation Ltd (NCCF)
INDIA	National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI)
INDIA	National Federation of State Co-operative Banks Ltd. (NAFSCOB)
INDIA	National Federation of Fishermen's Co-operatives Ltd. (FISHCOPFED)
INDIA	Indian Farm Forestry Development Co-operative Ltd. (IFFDC)
INDIA	National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC)
INDIA	Co-operative House Building & Finance Corporation Ltd.
INDIA	Buldana Urban Co-operative Credit Society Ltd. (BUCCS)
INDIA	National Federation of Farmers Procurement, Processing & Retailing Cooperatives of India Ltd. (NACOF)
INDIA	Uralungal Labour Contract Cooperative Society Ltd. (ULCCS LTD)
INDIA	Tirumalla Tirupati Multistate Cooperative Credit Society Limited
INDONESIA	Indonesian Co-operative Council (Dekopin)
IRAN	Central Organization for Rural Co-operatives of Iran (CORC)
IRAN	Central Union of Rural & Agricultural Co-operatives of Iran (CURACI)
IRAN	Iran Central Chamber of Co-operative (ICC)
IRAN	Iran Oilseeds & Vegetable Oil Processing Factories Co-operative (Farda Co-op)

IRAN	Supervision and Coordination Central Union of Rural and Agricultural Co-operatives of Iran (SCURA)
IRAN	Tose'e Ta'avon Bank (T.T. Bank)
IRAN	Pishgaman Cooperative Union (PCU)
IRAN	Rah-e-roshd cooperative educational complex (CRC)
IRAN	Central Organization for Rural Production Cooperatives of Iran (CURPC)
IRAN	Taavon Insurance Co.
IRELAND	Co-operative Housing Ireland
ISRAEL	Central Union for Cooperative Initiative in Israel
ISRAEL	The Kibbutz Movement
ITALY	Associazione Generale Cooperative Italiane (A.G.C.I. Nazionale)
ITALY	Confederazione Cooperative Italiane (CONFCOOPERATIVE)
ITALY	Lega Nazionale delle Cooperative e Mutue (Legacoop)
ITALY	European Research Institute on Cooperative and Social Enterprises (EURICSE)
JAMAICA	TIP Friendly Society
JAMAICA	Jamaica Co-operative Credit Union League (JCCUL)
JAPAN	Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives (JA-ZENCHU)
JAPAN	IE-NO-HIKARI Association (Association for Education and Publications on Agricultural Co-operatives)
JAPAN	Japanese Consumers' Co-operative Union (JCCU)
JAPAN	National Federation of Agriculture Co-operative Associations (ZEN-NOH)
JAPAN	National Federation of Fisheries Co-operative Associations (JF-ZENGYOREN)
JAPAN	National Federation of Forest Owners Co-operative Associations (ZENMORI-REN)
JAPAN	National Federation of Workers & Consumers Insurance Co-operatives (ZENROSAI)
JAPAN	National Mutual Insurance Federation of Agricultural Co-operatives (ZENKYOREN)
JAPAN	The Japan Agricultural News (NIHON-NOGYO-SHIMBUN)
JAPAN	Japan Workers' Co-operative Union (Jigyodan) (JWCU)
JAPAN	The Norinchukin Bank
JAPAN	Japanese Health and Welfare Co-operative Federation (HeW Co-op Japan)
JAPAN	National Federation of University Co-operative Associations (NFUCA)
JAPAN	Japan Co-operative Insurance Association Inc. (JCIA)
JAPAN	National Association of Labour Banks (NALB)
JAPAN	Japan Co-op Insurance Consumers' Co-operative Federation (JCIF)
JAPAN	Japan Co-operative Alliance (JCA)
JORDAN	Jordan Co-operative Corporation (JOR)

KAZAKHSTAN (Rep.of)	Union of Consumer Societies of the Republic of Kazakhstan
KENYA	Co-operative Bank of Kenya Ltd (CBK)
KENYA	CIC Insurance Group Ltd.
KENYA	The Co-operative University of Kenya (CUK)
KENYA	Kenya Union of Savings and Credit Co-operatives Ltd. (KUSCCO)
KENYA	National Co-operative Housing Union Ltd (NACHU)
KENYA-INT	Africa Confederation of Co-operative Savings & Credit Associations (ACCOSCA)
KIRIBATI	Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives (MCIC)
KOREA (Rep. of)	Korean Federation of Community Credit Co-operatives (KFCC)
KOREA (Rep. of)	National Agricultural Co-operative Federation (NACF)
KOREA (Rep. of)	National Credit Union Federation of Korea (NACUFOK)
KOREA (Rep. of)	Korean National Federation of Fisheries Co-operatives (NFFC)
KOREA (Rep. of)	National Forestry Co-operatives Federation (NFCF)
KOREA (Rep. of)	iCOOP Korea
KOREA (Rep. of)	International Solidarity of Korea Cooperatives (ISKC)
KUWAIT	Union of Consumer Co-operative Societies State of Kuwait (KUCCS)
KYRGYZSTAN	Co-operatives Union of Kyrgyzstan (CUK)
LESOTHO	Co-operative Lesotho Ltd.
LITHUANIA	Lithuanian Union of Co-operative Societies (LITCOOPUNION)
MALAYSIA	Malaysian National Co-operative Movement (ANGKASA)
MALAYSIA	National Land Finance Co-operative Society Ltd. (NLFCS)
MALAYSIA	Co-operative College of Malaysia (CCM)
MALDIVES	Maldives Fishermen's Association (MFA)
MALTA	Koperattivi Malta
MAURITIUS	The Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd (MCUL)
MEXICO (Rep. of)	Caja Popular Mexicana SC de AP de RL CV (CPM)
MEXICO (Rep. of)	Confederación Nacional Cooperativa de Actividades Diversas de la República Mexicana (CNC) S.C. de R.L.
MEXICO (Rep. of)	Federación de Cajas Populares Alianza SC de RL de CV
MEXICO (Rep. of)	FENORESTE S.C.L. de C.V.
MOLDOVA (Rep. of)	Central Union of Consumer Co-operatives of the Republic of Moldova (MOLDCOOP)
MONGOLIA	National Association of Mongolian Agricultural Co-operatives (NAMAC)
MONGOLIA	Mongolian Co-operative Alliance (MNCA)

MOROCCO	Office du Développement de la Coopération (ODCo)
MOZAMBIQUE	Associação Moçambicana de Promoção do Cooperativismo MODERMO (AMPCM)
MYANMAR	Central Co-operative Society Ltd. (CCS)
NAMIBIA	Namibia Co-operatives Advisory Board (NCAB)
NEPAL	National Co-operative Federation of Nepal (NCF)
NEPAL	National Co-operative Development Board (NCDB)
NEPAL	Nepal Agricultural Co-operative Central Federation Limited (NACCFL)
NEPAL	National Co-operative Bank Ltd. (NCBL)
NEPAL	Nepal Multipurpose Central Co-operative Union Ltd (NEMCCU)
NEW ZEALAND	Cooperative Business New Zealand
NIGER	Fédération des Coopératives Maraîchères du Niger (FCMN-Niya)
NIGERIA	Co-operative Federation of Nigeria (CFN)
NIGERIA	Federal Department of Co-operatives, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FDC)
NIGERIA	Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation Cooperative Multipurpose Society LTD (NNPC-CMS Lagos)
NIGERIA	Odua Cooperative Conglomerate Ltd (OCC)
NORWAY	Coop Norge SA
NORWAY	Federation of Norwegian Agricultural Co-operatives (Norsk Landbrukssamvirke)
NORWAY	The Co-operative Housing Federation of Norway (NBBL)
PAKISTAN	Karachi Co-operative Housing Societies Union Ltd. (KCHSU)
PALESTINE	Palestinian Agriculture Cooperative Union (PACU)
PALESTINE	Economic and Social Development Center of Palestine (ESDC)
PALESTINE	Union of Housing Cooperatives in Palestine (PUHC)
PANAMA	Instituto Panameño Autónomo Cooperativo (IPACOOP)
PANAMA	Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples Profesionales, R.L.
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	Office of Co-operative Societies of Papua New Guinea (OCS PNG)
PARAGUAY	Confederación Paraguaya De Cooperativas CONPACOOP Ltda.
PARAGUAY	Cooperativa Universitaria Ltda
PARAGUAY	Panal Compañía de Seguros Generales S.A. - Propiedad Cooperativa
PARAGUAY	Federación de Cooperativas del Paraguay (FECOPAR LTDA.)
PARAGUAY	Confederación de Cooperativas Rurales del Paraguay Ltda. (CONCOPAR)
PARAGUAY	Federación de Cooperativas Multiactivas del Paraguay (FECOMULP LTDA.)
PERU	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Santa María Magdalena, Ltda. (CACSM)
PERU	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito "Grl. Francisco Bolognesi" Ltda. (C.A.C. FB)

PERU	Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples del Centro Ltda. (CENTROCOOP)
PERU	Cooperativa de Servicios Especiales Educoop (C.S.E. EDUCOOP)
PERU	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito San Martín de Porres Ltda.
PHILIPPINES	National Confederation of Co-operatives (NATCCO)
PHILIPPINES	Co-operative Development Authority (CDA)
PHILIPPINES	MASS-SPECC Cooperative Development Center
PHILIPPINES	VICTO National Co-operative Federation and Development Center (VICTO National)
PHILIPPINES	Philippine Co-operative Center (PCC)
PHILIPPINES	Federation of Peoples' Sustainable Development Cooperative (FPSDC)
PHILIPPINES	Aurora Integrated Multipurpose Cooperative (AIMCOOP)
PHILIPPINES	Union of Legitimate Service Contracting Cooperatives (ULSCC)
PHILIPPINES	Metro South Cooperative Bank (MSCB)
PHILIPPINES	1 Cooperative Insurance System of the Philippines Life and General Insurance (1CISP)
POLAND	National Association of Co-operative Savings and Credit Unions (NACSCU)
POLAND	National Auditing Union of Workers' Co-operatives (NAUWC)
POLAND	National Supervision Union of Spolem Consumer Co-operatives
POLAND	National Co-operative Council – NCC
POLAND	Auditing Union of Housing Co-operatives
PORTUGAL	Confecoop - Confederação Cooperativa Portuguesa, CCRL
PORTUGAL	Cooperativa António Sérgio para a Economia Social - Cooperativa de Interesse Público de Responsabilidade Limitada (CASES)
PUERTO RICO	Cooperativa de Seguros Múltiples de Puerto Rico Inc.
PUERTO RICO	Liga de Cooperativas de Puerto Rico (LIGACOOP)
PUERTO RICO	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito de Arecibo (COOPACA)
PUERTO RICO	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito "Dr. Manuel Zeno Gandía"
PUERTO RICO	Banco Cooperativo de Puerto Rico (Bancoop)
PUERTO RICO	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Credito Vega Alta (VEGACOOP)
ROMANIA	National Union of Consumer Co-operatives (CENTROCOOP)
ROMANIA	National Union of Handicraft and Production Co-operatives of Romania (UCECOM)
RUSSIA	Central Union of Consumer Societies of the Russian Federation
RUSSIA	Moscow Regional Union of Consumer Societies
RWANDA	National Cooperatives Confederation of Rwanda (NCCR)
RWANDA	Independent Institute of Lay Adventists of Kigali (INILAK)
SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS	Caribbean Confederation of Credit Unions (CCCU)

SINGAPORE	Singapore National Co-operative Federation Ltd. (SNCF)
SLOVAKIA	Co-operative Union of the Slovak Republic
SOMALIA	Somali Union Co-operative Movement (UDHIS)
SOUTH AFRICA	South African National Apex Co-operative (SANACO)
SPAIN	Confederació de Cooperativas de Catalunya (CoopCat)
SPAIN	KONFEKOOP - Confederación de Cooperativas de Euskadi
SPAIN	Fundación Espriu
SPAIN	Confederación Española de Cooperativas de Trabajo Asociado (COCETA)
SPAIN	Confederación Empresarial Española de la Economía Social (CEPES)
SRI LANKA	SANASA Federation Ltd in Sri Lanka
SRI LANKA	National Co-operative Council of Sri Lanka (NCCSL)
SRI LANKA	Sri Lanka Consumer Co-operative Societies Federation Ltd (CoopfeD)
SRI LANKA	National Institute of Co-operative Development (NICD)
SRI LANKA	Kotikawatta Thrift and Credit Co-operative Society Ltd. (KTCCS)
SWEDEN	HSB:Riksförbund (Union of Housing Co-operatives)
SWEDEN	Kooperativa Förbundet (KF) (The Swedish Co-operative Union)
SWEDEN	Riksbyggen (Co-operative Housing Union)
SWEDEN	Coompanion - Kooperativ Utveckling Sverige
SWEDEN	Folksam
SWITZERLAND	Allgemeine Baugenossenschaft Zürich (ABZ)
SWITZERLAND	Baugenossenschaft mehr als wohnen
TANZANIA	Moshi Co-operative University (MoCU)
TANZANIA	Tanzania Federation of Co-operatives Ltd (TFC)
THAILAND	The Co-operative League of Thailand (CLT)
THAILAND-INT	Association of Asian Confederations of Credit Unions (ACCU)
TIMOR-LESTE	Con-Federation (CNCTL)
TURKEY	Central Union Of The Agricultural Credit Cooperatives Of Turkiye (ACC)
TURKEY	National Co-operative Union of Turkey (NCUT)
TURKEY	The Central Union of Turkish Forestry Co-operatives (ORKOOP)
UGANDA	Uganda Co-operative Alliance Ltd. (UCA)
UGANDA	HealthPartners Uganda (HPU)
UKRAINE	Central Union of Consumer Societies of Ukraine (UKOOPSPILKA)
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	Sharjah Co-operative Society (SCS)

UNITED KINGDOM	Co-operatives UK
UNITED KINGDOM	The Midcounties Co-operative Limited
UNITED STATES	National Cooperative Business Association CLUSA International (NCBA CLUSA)
UNITED STATES	Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company
UNITED STATES	Credit Union National Association (CUNA)
UNITED STATES	National Cooperative Bank (NCB)
UNITED STATES	National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA)
UNITED STATES	CHS Inc.
UNITED STATES	CoBank, ACB
UNITED STATES	National Co+op Grocers (NCG)
UNITED STATES	National Society of Accountants for Co-operatives (NSAC)
UNITED STATES	Land O'Lakes International Development
URUGUAY	Confederación Uruguaya de Entidades Cooperativas (CUDECOOP)
URUGUAY	Cooperativas Nacionales Financieras Aliadas en Red (CONFIAR)
URUGUAY	Instituto Nacional del Cooperativismo (INACOOP)
URUGUAY	Cámara Uruguaya de Cooperativas de Ahorro y crédito de Capitalización (CUCACC)
VANUATU	Office of the Registrar of Cooperatives and Business Development Services (ORCBDS)
VIETNAM	Vietnam Cooperatives Alliance (VCA)
VIETNAM	Vietnam National Industrial, Handicraft and Commercial Coop-Enterprises Association (ViCCA)
ZIMBABWE	Zimbabwe National Association of Housing Co-operatives (ZINAHCO)

ICA 2019 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

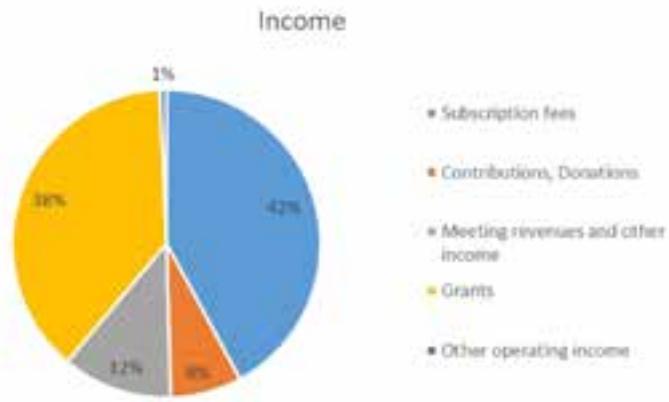
2019 financial results

in EUR	2019
AFRICA *	- 79,904
AMERICAS *	12,462
ASIA & PACIFIC *	42,824
GLOBAL OFFICE *	-6,562
ICA CONSOLIDATED	-27,097
COOPERATIVES	7,215
EUROPE	
50% DotCoop Alliance	59,757

* Before Consolidation

2019 Financial statements

For the Global Office and the Africa, Americas and Asia - Pacific Regions



SECTORAL REDISTRIBUTION	
EUR	2019
CCW	52.329
CHI	49.599
CICOPA	50.100
ICAO	53.574
ICBA	43.230
ICFO	34.751
IHCO	32.783
TOTAL	316.366



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